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REPORT

OF THE

FAMINE OF 1891 AND 1892,

AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MEASURES ADOPTED FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS.

642 61

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CONTENTS.

	PARAS.
Circumstances causing distress	1–4
First period, January—June 1891	5–10
Area affected	5
Prices	6
Measures of relief and condition of tract	7–10
Second period, July—December 1891	11–22
General conditions	11–16
Prices	17–18
Measures of relief	19–22
Third period, January—September 1892	23–31
Areas affected	23–24
Prices	25–28
Measures of relief	29–31
Necessity for special measures of relief	32–43
Suitability and adequacy of measures adopted	44–75
Works	45–54
Gratuitous relief	55–61
Loan operations	62–67
Relief to weavers	68–69
Recorded mortality in affected districts	70–75
Activity of the grain trade	76–80
Efforts made for the protection of cattle	81–90
Cattle mortality	91–93
Cost of relief measures	94–98
Cost of works	95–96
Gratuitous relief	97
Remissions	98
Modifications necessary in the Famine Code	99–113
Gratuitous relief	100–103
Agency by which relief works should be supervised	104–105
Wages and classification of labourers	106–113
Conclusion, and notice of special services	114–117

APPENDICES TO THE REPORT.

	PAGES
I.—Statement of cultivation	53
II.— Do. of prices	54–62
III.— Do. of numbers relieved	63–69
IV.— Do. of expenditure on relief works	70–72
V.—Note on grain trade during the period of distress	73–81

Diagrams illustrating the course of prices in typical districts.

Coimbatore	Cholum and cumbu.
Chingleput and Madras	Rice and ragi. Rice.
Cuddapah sub-division	Cumbu and ragi.
Kurnool and Bellary	Cholum.

REPORT OF THE FAMINE OF 1891 AND 1892.

The period of severe agricultural distress which has prevailed throughout the Presidency of Madras for the past two and a quarter years, commenced about the end of 1890 or the beginning of 1891, and was due at first to the failure of the north-east monsoon of 1890–91—a failure which was most marked in the districts of Cuddapah, Nellore, Chingleput, North Arcot, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Madura, Tinnevelly and Malabar. A late and seriously deficient south-west monsoon in 1891 prolonged and deepened in Cuddapah, Nellore, Chingleput, North Arcot and Coimbatore the agricultural distress which a good monsoon would have taken away, and led to a large failure of crops in Salem, Cuddapah, Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool and North Nellore—a failure which was afterwards intensified in portions of all the last mentioned districts by the failure of their north-east monsoon of 1891–92.

2. The failure of the late or north-east monsoon rains of 1890–91 was felt in all the nine districts first specified in paragraph 1, but special operations for the relief of distress were found necessary in the first six months of 1891 only in the districts of Chingleput, North Arcot, Nellore, Cuddapah and Coimbatore. The failure of the early or south-west monsoon rains of 1891 rendered necessary the opening of relief works in Salem, and the combined failure of the south-west monsoon rains and the north-east monsoon rains of 1891–92 compelled the extension of relief works to several new taluks of Cuddapah, to one new taluk of Coimbatore, and to a large area in Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool and North Nellore. The bountiful rains of the south-west monsoon of 1892 brought relief to all these affected tracts and allowed of the closure of all special measures of relief in September last.

The rainfall of each monsoon period of the two and a half years ending September 1892 for each of the districts in which relief operations were carried out is shown below:—

Group and districts.	Average during 20 years.				1890–91.				1891–92.				1892.	
	April and May.	June to September.	October to March.	Total.	April and May.	June to September.	October to March.	Total.	April and May.	June to September.	October to March.	Total.	April and May.	June to September.
Deccan.														
Kurnool	1·88	18·40	6·92	27·20	1·57	22·00	5·48	29·05	1·08	10·51	3·20	14·79	1·16	26·97
Bellary	2·55	13·66	6·49	22·70	2·73	12·12	9·43	24·28	0·97	6·28	2·67	9·92	1·68	19·07
Anantapur	2·87	12·97	7·90	23·74	2·46	9·40	9·00	20·86	0·76	5·63	4·47	10·86	1·40	21·41
Cuddapah	2·40	14·81	11·91	29·12	1·66	11·05	9·08	21·79	0·79	8·92	4·46	14·17	0·99	24 60
Carnatic.														
Nellore	1·84	10·71	22·38	34·93	0·47	10·55	14·79	25·81	0·38	7·27	9·34	16·99	0·47	19·67
Madras	2·84	15·08	31·61	49·53	..	13·68	10·70	24·38	0·55	5·65	23·28	29·48	0·43	28·88
Chingleput ..	2·68	16·44	26·99	46·11	0·75	18·85	11·36	30·96	0·73	7·35	21·36	29·44	0·42	28·37
Central.														
North Arcot ..	3·55	16·18	18·14	37·87	2·67	17·01	12·40	32·08	0·80	10·07	15·49	26·36	1·87	27·01
Salem	5·19	14·28	12·21	31·68	4·94	14·04	12·32	31·30	1·82	8·79	8·85	19·46	6·02	18·21
Coimbatore ..	5·16	8·27	12·16	25·59	6·62	5·00	14·07	25·69	3·57	4·55	12·98	21·10	6·44	8·04
Southern.														
Tinnevelly	3·47	3·64	19·79	26·90	2·85	2·60	16·90	22·35	3·09	2·24	27·55	32·88	6·06	2·28

The cycle of bad seasons was, however, not yet over in the Presidency. The north-east monsoon of 1892–93 was singularly deficient in Chingleput, North and South Arcot, Trichinopoly, South Coimbatore, Madura and Tinnevelly, and the necessity for carrying out relief works on a large scale throughout the Ramnad zemindari in the Madura district was only obviated by a very large migration of the people in the early months of the current year to the neighbouring delta district of Tanjore and by a fair fall of rain in March which gave employment to the residue of the population.

3. The half empty irrigation works, the dry crops failing for want of rain, the crops under irrigation works failing with the failure of the supply on which they depended, and the large areas left uncultivated altogether in parts of Cuddapah, Nellore, Chingleput, North Arcot, Coimbatore, Madura, Tinnevelly and Malabar, rendered it nearly certain in December 1890 that it would be necessary to find employment for the relief of agricultural labourers who, deprived of their wonted work by the failure of the crops, would otherwise be unable to support themselves.

That the failure of the crops of a single season should be sufficient to cause extensive distress had formerly been doubted, but the experience of 1888–89 in Ganjám had shown clearly that a failure even so limited might mean famine widespread and severe, and that it was necessary to keep a most careful watch over all tracts so affected.

4. In reviewing the condition of the affected districts early in February 1891, the Commissioner of Settlement in charge of relief operations reported that the districts which had suffered the most severely from failure of the crops were Chingleput, North Arcot and Tinnevelly, but that, even in those districts, there was no immediate necessity for starting extraordinary relief works, and that the ordinary public works and minor irrigation works on a slightly enlarged scale would be sufficient to give the needed employment to labour. Considerable loss of revenue was anticipated in the shape of remissions on irrigated land where the crops had been lost. Much suffering, it was also stated, must of necessity occur among the poorer classes, owing to the pressure of high prices, but it was added that there seemed no chance of the present scarcity deepening into famine, if the next monsoon was favorable.

In South Arcot and Madura, the areas on which the crops had been reported to have been lost or to be in a critical condition were comparatively small, and rain in the earlier months of 1891 had so much improved the fading crops that the Commissioner who had personally inspected the affected tracts in South Arcot, recommended that that district should be removed from the affected list. In Malabar, the first rice crop though not up to the average was hardly anywhere an entire failure, and it was not considered that the failure of the second rice crop in parts of so rich a district would be likely to entail any serious distress.

5. At the end of February it was considered that the area affected might be put down at about 18,000 square miles, comprising the taluks of Nellore south of the Penner river and the southern portion of the Venkatagiri zemindari; portions of the eastern and southern taluks of Cuddapah; the greater portion of the Kálahasti zemindari and the Wandiwash taluk in North Arcot; the northern taluks of Chingleput and portions of three others; seven taluks of Tinnevelly, of which four were only partially affected, and portions of the Coimbatore district. The population of these tracts amounted to about four millions. The area shown against Cuddapah was large, but

District.	Total area.	Total population.	Area affected.	Approximate population of the affected tracts.
	SQ. MLS.	NO.	SQ. MLS.	NO.
Chingleput	2,842	981,400	2,300	795,700
North Arcot	7,256	1,817,800	1,300	266,100
Nellore	8,739	1,220,200	2,200	261,000
Cuddapah	8,745	1,121,000	5,700	726,500
Tinnevelly	5,381	1,699,700	3,700	1,279,000
Coimbatore	7,842	1,657,700	2,900	748,500
Total ..	40,805	8,497,800	18,100	4,076,800

the failure there though widespread was only partial and much less than in the other districts. In most of the affected districts there had been fortunately some unhoped for and quite abnormal falls of rain in January and February which, though too late to save any considerable portion of the wet crops, materially improved the prospects in various ways, especially in Tinnevelly and Nellore, and at the end of February there was no ground for any serious anxiety in any of the affected districts except in portions of Chingleput, North Arcot and Tinnevelly. In the three districts referred to a slightly increased expenditure on repairs to minor irrigation works and on a few large additional works opened by the Public Works Department in view to guarantee employment to all comers supplemented by the liberal grant of loans under the Land Improvement Act, had enabled the ryots and the labouring classes to pass through the first two months of the year without any severe distress. Larger numbers, it was thought, would resort to the Government works during the period intervening between February and the south-west monsoon in May and June, and it was considered that it would be necessary in certain tracts to supplement the offer of employment to those capable of labour by the grant of gratuitous relief to the destitute who were unable to work; but if fair rain fell in May or June the distress, it was estimated, would be at an end, while if the rains in May and June failed the position would be grave. Preparations should, it was decided, be made to meet such an event, though there was but little probability that it would happen. The numbers on Government works of all kinds including minor irrigation works amounted at the end of February to about 600 in Chingleput and about 260 in North Arcot; in the week ending 14th March, owing to the cessation of harvest operations, the numbers rose to 3,500 and 2,200, respectively. A considerable proportion, however, of these numbers represented ordinary labourers who would be employed in ordinary seasons also on works carried out by the Public Works or by the Revenue and Local Fund Departments. In the latter district, the numbers would, it was expected, increase very considerably when the irrigation works, for the repair of which Government had sanctioned a loan of 4 lakhs to the Zemindar of Kalahasti, had been fairly started.

6. *Prices.*—The following table shows the prices in Imperial seers per rupee of the principal food-grains during the three months ending February 1891 as compared with the average of five years ending 1884–85 and of five years ending 1889–90:—

District.	Rice, 2nd sort.							Cholum.						
	Average of five years ending 1884–85.	Average of next five years.	December 1890.	January 1891.	February 1891.	Average of eleven months of 1890–91.	Scarcity rate.	Average of five years ending 1884–85.	Average of next five years.	December 1890.	January 1891.	February 1891.	Average of eleven months of 1890–91.	Scarcity rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Nellore	15·6	15·0	11·8	11·8	12·0	12·7	9·5	26·9	24·5	21·3	20·9	21·2	22·3	12·5
Cuddapah	15·2	15·2	11·9	11·5	11·6	13·1	9·7	30·6	28·9	26·0	23·9	24·0	28·0	13·7
Chingleput ..	16·0	16 0	11·7	11·7	11·6	11·9	10·0	23·7	21·0	15·2	17·4	18·7	17·6	12·0
North Arcot ..	16·8	15·9	11·4	11·4	11·6	12·2	10·0	29·5	27·4	23·1	22·2	20·9	24·8	12·0
South Arcot ..	16·9	15·7	12·4	12·8	12·6	12·2	10·0	32·6	28·3	21·8	24·8	23·5	22·9	12·0
Madura	15·5	14·1	11·2	11·1	11·3	10·9	8·5	36·0	29·2	19·8	21·6	23·6	20·1	13·8
Tinnevelly ..	15·2	13·2	10·4	10·5	10·6	10·3	8·5	28·9	23·3	16·1	15·9	15·7	17·2	13·8
Coimbatore ..	15·0	14·1	11·7	11·4	11·3	11·6	8·5	27·4	22·5	18·8	18·6	18·5	19·9	11·5
Malabar	14·6	13·7	11·3	11·7	11·8	11·4	8·2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

District.	Cumbu.							Ragi.						
	Average of five years ending 1884–85.	Average of next five years.	December 1890.	January 1891.	February 1891.	Average of eleven months of 1890–91.	Scarcity rate.	Average of five years ending 1884–85.	Average of next five years.	December 1890.	January 1891.	February 1891.	Average of eleven months of 1890–91.	Scarcity rate.
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Nellore ..	25·3	23·1	19·6	19·3	19·5	20·6	12·0	30·3	28·7	22·5	22·4	22·1	24·2	14·0
Cuddapah ..	30·3	28·9	22·1	19·9	19·5	25·1	13·1	34·0	32·7	27·9	26·0	26·2	30·5	14·7
Chingleput ..	22·9	20·1	18·1	17·6	18·5	17·5	12·0	27·1	27·3	22·5	21·3	20·6	23·3	13·2
North Arcot ..	27·7	26·1	21·2	20·3	19·2	22·1	12·0	31·9	31·3	24·5	23·4	23·1	26·7	13·2
South Arcot ..	30·9	27·9	24·9	24·3	22 8	22·5	12·0	31·9	28·2	24·3	24·1	22·8	23·4	13·2
Madura ..	32·2	25·4	18·7	18·2	18·8	18·23	12·5	33·8	27·6	21·7	20·2	20·2	20·9	13·75
Tinnevelly ..	27·3	20·5	15·5	15·9	16·5	15·2	12·5	30·8	24·8	19·6	19·1	18·3	18·7	13·75
Coimbatore ..	32·8	26·4	22·2	21·2	20·5	22·5	12·8	32·3	28·3	24·4	22·9	22·1	25·3	13·5
Malabar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21·9	25·0	23·1	22·6	21·8	23·8	10·75

Owing to the unfavorable season in several districts of the Presidency both in 1888–89 and 1889–90, prices of all grains during those two years generally ranged higher than usual. In the year 1890–91 there was a further and marked rise beginning from November 1890 owing to the partial failure of the north-east monsoon and consequent deficient harvests. The rise, however, was gradual and prices in February 1891 were still 50 to 75 per cent. below the scarcity rate in the case of the dry grains which form the staple food of the masses, and from 25 to 33 per cent. less in the case of rice except in Chingleput and North Arcot, where the price of this grain was only 16 per cent. below the scarcity rate. All the affected districts had, however, great facilities of communication both by rail and by road, while the two worst districts, Chingleput and North Arcot, are quite close to the Presidency town. Private trade was very active as shown by the rail-borne and sea-borne trade returns, and markets everywhere abundantly supplied.

7. *Numbers seeking relief.*—The numbers resorting to relief works from February, the date on which special works were commenced, until June, were as shown below :—

Districts.	1891.				
	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.
Tinnevelly	..	253	1,639	1,342	768
Coimbatore	..	240	370	208	423
North Arcot	155	1,736	3,312	6,367	7,208
Chingleput	928	4,449	4,662	6,812	8,055
Cuddapah	..	..	..	170	325
Total ..	1,083	6,678	9,983	14,899	16,779

The largest numbers were in the Chingleput district where the numbers on works rose from 928 in February to 8,055 in June, the highest average numbers reached in any month during the continuancy of distress in the district, though in one week in October the numbers reached 10,007. The numbers in North Arcot, the affected tracts of which adjoined similarly affected tracts in Chingleput, also rose considerably, though with the failure of the south-west monsoon in May and June they were to rise higher.

Measures for the gratuitous relief of indigent poor, unable to labour, were instituted about the end of March in the North Arcot district, after a visit to the distressed tracts in that district had convinced His Excellency the Governor of their

absolute necessity, and took the form of kitchens for the issue of cooked food. These were extended shortly afterwards to the Chingleput district. To these districts it was found possible to confine gratuitous relief during the first period of distress. The numbers resorting to this form of relief monthly in each of the two districts are shown in the margin.

	North Arcot.	Chingle-put.
March 1891	26	...
April "	760	...
May "	1,102	122
June "	1,355	208

8. In the month of April good rain had fallen in the Tinnevelly and parts of the Coimbatore district and had done much to improve prospects and to give agricultural employment. The rainfall, however, of the quarter ending 30th June, which included the first six weeks of the south-west monsoon, had been generally bad in the rest of the affected tracts. In the Ráyachóti taluk of Cuddapah, the only affected taluk in that district, there had been practically no rain during the three months. In the Chingleput district the prospects at the end of June were more gloomy than they had been in May. There was a fair fall of rain in June in the Tiruvallúr and Madurántakam taluks, but in neither taluk did it reach the worst tracts. In the Saidapet and Chingleput taluks the rainfall of June was only ·92 and ·37 inches against an average of 2·33 and 3·45 inches, respectively, while in the Ponnéri taluk the rain of the three months registered only ·42 inch compared with an expected average of 3·36 inches. In the North Arcot district, prospects had been considerably improved in the Wandiwash taluk by a good fall of rain which had enabled the ryots to sow large areas of dry land with cumbu and gingelly, but in the Kálahasti zemindari, the other affected portion of the district, the rainfall had been hardly anywhere sufficient to allow of the planting of dry crops, and at the Commissioner's visits to the Maderpauk division of the zemindari he found the country entirely parched up with the exception of a few cases under wells.

In the Coimbatore district there had been no rain in June in the Udamalpet taluk, and the fall in the taluks of Coimbatore, Pollachi and Palladam had been very slight. In the northern portion of the Udamalpet taluk, the southern portion of Palladam and the north-east portion of Pollachi a considerable amount of distress was reported by the Collector, which would certainly increase if rain did not fall at an early date; the tract specified consists of very poor soil and, owing to the successive failure of crops during three years, stocks of grain were believed to be very low. Prices were rising considerably notwithstanding large imports by rail.

The rainfall in the affected tracts during the period just dealt with is shown below:—

District.	Taluk.	Rainfall, April to June inclusive. Average of 10 years.	1891.
Cuddapah	Ráyachóti	3·67	·37
Chingleput	Chingleput	4·90	1·42
	Madurántakam	6·09	2·32
	Ponnéri	3·36	0·42
	Saidapet	3·46	1·54
	Tiruvallúr	4·40	3·59
North Arcot	Wandiwash	8·02	4·10
	Kálahasti	4·33	2·05
	Maderpak	4·43	1·64
Coimbatore	Palladam	7·19	3·66
	Udamalpet	5·87	1·64
	Dhárápuram	5·59	3·74
	Pollachi	9·70	8·42

9. The area and population of the affected tracts above specified in which distress was felt at the end of June was about 3,450 square miles with a population of about 950,000. The deficiency of the south-west monsoon to date which had been markedly felt in the affected tracts had been general throughout the Presidency. The rains

had been unusually late throughout the Presidency generally, and the general outlook was far from satisfactory.

10. *Prices.*—The prices of the principal food-grains in the affected tracts during the months of January, April, and June are shown below compared with the normal prices:—

District.	Taluk.	Staple grains.	January.		April.		June.	
			Normal.	1891.	Normal.	1891.	Normal.	1891.
Cuddapah	Ráyachóti	Cumbu	34·3	21·8	30·3	19·9	30·8	19·6
		Ragi	35·1	25·5	34·9	30·0	34·5	30·0
Chingleput	Chingleput	Do.	26·9	19·9	25·9	19·9	25·0	20·1
	Madurántakam	Do.	26·9	21·0	25·0	19·0	25·7	18·6
	Ponnéri	Do.	26·4	19·8	26·9	19·4	26·9	19·0
	Saidapet	Do.	26·1	21·9	25·3	21·9	24·2	21·2
	Tiruvallúr	Do.	27·9	21·9	28·5	21·9	28·5	19·9
North Arcot	Wandiwash	Do.	29·7	20·9	27·4	21·8	27·7	19·7
	Kálahasti, Maderpak	Do.	32·8	20·0	32·0	22·8	33·0	20·9
Coimbatore	Palladam	Cholum.	20·0	18·2	20·2	19·1	21·0	17·8
	Udamalpet	Do.	21·4	15·4	22·6	18·0	21·7	17·7
	Dhárápuram	Do.	19·4	15·9	21·4	20·0	20·7	18·8
	Pollachi	Do.	22·7	19·1	22·8	17·8	22·7	17·4

Prices were everywhere high, but in no case had there been any approach to famine rates, any serious rise being prevented by the large importations by rail and sea into the affected tracts. The grain trade was exceptionally active and quantities of grain were poured into North Arcot, Chingleput, Coimbatore and Salem districts from the Delta districts of the Presidency and from the Ceded districts and the province of Mysore. The area of distress was of but limited extent and was everywhere easily accessible.

11. *Second period, July to December* 1891.—The rainfall which had been deficient in the affected districts up to the end of June showed a further deficiency in July and all hopes of bringing the relief works to a speedy close, which would have been the certain result of an early and good monsoon, had to be given up. The deficiency continued through August, during which month it was specially marked in most of the worst affected areas. In the two worst taluks of Chingleput, however, a fair fall of rain at the end of the month enabled a large quantity of land to be sown, removed the water famine, and ensured an early supply of grass to the cattle. The rains of September were generally deficient, but towards the end of the month good rain commenced to fall in most districts, which continued through the first weeks in October and greatly improved the condition of the affected areas, with the exception of parts of Coimbatore and Salem.

The above remarks on the rainfall have had reference solely to the tracts which were suffering from the failure of the north-east monsoon of 1890–91. The south-west monsoon however had been late everywhere throughout the Presidency, and had up to the end of September been seriously deficient throughout the districts of Chingleput and Coimbatore and also in the Bellary and Anantapur districts. In the first and two last of the districts named the fall had been less than half the usual average, while in Coimbatore it was only slightly above half the average. The effect of this late and deficient rainfall had been to retard sowings very greatly, so that at the end of September the area sown with dry crops throughout the Presidency was only 7,626,000 against a normal area of 10,400,000 acres, showing a falling off of 27 per cent., the deficiency being most marked in the nine districts noted in the margin where the dry cultivation amounted to only 3,587,000 acres compared with a normal cultivation during the same period of 6,089,000 acres. The continued want of agricultural employment consequent on the failure of the rains led in September to the opening of relief works in four

Bellary.	Salem.
Anantapur.	Coimbatore.
North Arcot.	Trichinopoly.
Chingleput.	Madura.
South Arcot.	

taluks of the Salem district, though the advent shortly afterwards of good rain enabled the works to be speedily closed in three out of the four taluks. The October rainfall at length brought relief to North Arcot, Chingleput and Coimbatore, which had suffered so seriously since the commencement of the year, and also to the greater part of Salem. In the Deccan districts, however, the fall was barely half the average.

12. The rainfall in Bellary district in October amounted to 2·14 inches only as compared with a twenty-years' average of 4·85 inches, and the total rainfall from April to October inclusive to 9·39 inches as compared with a similar average of 21·06 inches. Extensive tracts had remained unsown and the crop over large areas was reported to be poor and scanty and in many places to have completely withered. In the Kurnool district, the state of the Markapur taluk began to cause anxiety early in October, and at a later date the adjoining taluk of Cumbum also. Up to September, the south-west monsoon rains had been good at Cumbum, but very light at Markapur, while during September the rain failed almost entirely at both stations and during October only took the form of light showers. Of a normal area of 90,000 acres of dry land usually cultivated to end of September, only about 40,000 acres had been sown in 1891, and these crops the Collector reported had either vanished or been ploughed up. The situation was similar over a large part of the Cumbum taluk. A large area was sown during October and November in Markapur, but it depended on the rains of November and December, which were insufficient, to bring the crops to maturity. At the end of October prices had risen considerably and were still rapidly rising.

In the Anantapur district, owing to the deficiency of the rains of the south-west monsoon, the early crops throughout the district had been exceptionally poor, the yield being estimated at only a quarter to half the average. The total rainfall in the district to the end of October had been only 9·84 inches as compared with the normal of 21·47 inches and sowings had been seriously retarded, having amounted to only 786,567 acres against the average to the same date of 1,239,634 acres. The Dharmavaram taluk had specially suffered from the failure of rain.

13. In the Salem district, sufficient rain fell in October as already stated to admit of all labourers finding their normal agricultural employment, save in the Tiruchengódu taluk, in the northern portion of which taluk the circumstances were such as to compel the retention of the relief works.

14. The November rainfall throughout the Presidency generally, with the exception of the two southernmost districts and of the West Coast districts, fell far short of the average. In Nellore, North Arcot and Chingleput the deficiency was as noted in the margin, the deficiency in Nellore being almost entirely in the northern taluks where rain was most urgently needed.

Districts.	November rainfall.	
	Average.	1891.
Nellore	9·11	1·46
North Arcot	7·26	2·79
Chingleput	12·30	4·75

In the Deccan districts, where, as already stated above, the rains of the south-west monsoon and of October had been exceedingly deficient, the rain of November brought no compensation, the fall during the month being as shown in the margin compared with the average. In Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur, very large areas of crop were reported to have entirely withered, while the crops over large areas in Cuddapah and North Nellore were likely to meet a similar fate unless early rain fell.

Deccan Districts.	November rainfall.	
	Average.	1891.
Kurnool	1·47	·24
Bellary	1·21	·59
Anantapur	1·79	·95
Cuddapah	4·02	·61

15. The December rainfall was good in Chingleput and in the previously affected areas of North Arcot, and admitted of the issue of orders for the early closing of relief works in those tracts. The situation in Coimbatore also much improved during the month, enabling the relief works to be much circumscribed. Some parts, however, of North Arcot above the ghâts began to cause anxiety, while there was no improvement in the state of the western portions of Salem.

In the Ceded districts and Kurnool, except at a few stations near the southern frontier of Cuddapah and at the stations in the eastern section of the same district, there was practically no rain at all during December; over large areas the crops continued to wither, the area of totally withered crops in Bellary and Anantapur being afterwards found to be 350,728 acres and 112,701 acres, respectively, while remissions were also granted for short crops of less than a quarter average outturn on 43,981 and 113,406 acres, respectively. So large also in other parts was the area which remained unsown (in Bellary 417,500 acres and in Anantapur 201,500 acres) and so real seemed to be the demand for assistance of those whom the failure of crops had deprived of employment and of support that it was determined to open relief works in four taluks of Bellary and in one taluk of Anantapur. Works had already been opened in the Kurnool district in the previous month in the two taluks of Cumbum and Markapur where the early crop had already been lost over a large area as reported in paragraph 12 above, and in January relief works had to be opened in five taluks of Cuddapah. In regard to the Cuddapah Sub-division, in which three of the latter taluks are situated, Mr. Atkinson, the Sub-Collector, reported in December 1891—

"This is the fourth consecutive monsoon that has failed wholly or in part. We are therefore now face to face with famine. My season report for November will give full particulars of the state of crops, &c., during that month. There is no need to dwell on that subject here. I wish now only to state, as emphatically as I can, that hereafter there is no question of scarcity or distress. We are entering a period of famine. The people generally have some odds and ends of crops (heaven save the mark!) to gather, with here and there a little work on the new railway and elsewhere, which will give employment up to the third or fourth week of this month. I am told by experienced observers that the grain in hand will last about the same time. It cannot last longer, for almost all old stores of grain are exhausted and the produce of the harvest now going on is being consumed as fast as it is gathered."

16. The rainfall of 1891–92 in the districts and taluks in which relief operations were carried on during that year is shown below compared with the average fall expected:—

Districts and taluks.	Normal.				1891–92.			
	April and May.	June to September.	October to March.	Total.	April and May.	June to September.	October to March.	Total.
Nellore.								
District average	1·84	10·71	22·38	34·93	0·38	7·27	9·34	16·99
Ongole	1·91	14·22	17·96	34·09	..	8·45	6·12	14·57
Kandukur	1·60	12 36	19·21	33·17	1·05	9·40	6·17	16·62
Kávali	1·51	11·67	26·17	39·35	..	9·50	9·85	19·35
Kanigiri	1·75	9·79	12·87	24·41	2·20	6·30	4·20	12·70
Udayagiri	2·23	7·75	19·73	29·71	0·95	6·32	6·35	13·62
Atmakur	2·06	7·72	22·18	31·96	0·50	4·15	3·80	8·45
Rapur	2·30	10·65	27·68	40·63	..	5·60	11·15	16·75
Nellore	1·98	10·43	26·35	38·76	..	7·95	9·24	17·19
Gudur	1·49	8·16	22·81	32·46	..	6·25	8·90	15·15
Venkatagiri	2·24	10·73	18·84	31·81	0·25	8·21	11·71	20·17
Chingleput.								
District average	2·68	16·44	26·99	46·11	0·73	7·35	21·36	29·44
Ponnéri	2·92	14·72	32·96	50·60	0·27	6·31	23·30	29·88
Tiruvallúr	2·42	14·63	25·54	42·59	0·95	10·01	21·66	32·62
Saidapet	1·88	15·07	34·59	51·54	0·62	6·06	24·26	30·94
Conjeeveram	2·23	17·86	24·59	44·68	0·92	8·89	15·80	25·61
Chingleput	2·35	18·04	26·38	46·77	1·05	5·79	25·93	32·77
Madurántakam	2·63	17·58	25·41	45·62	0·50	5·75	20·36	26·61
North Arcot.								
District average	3·55	16·18	18·14	37·87	0·80	10·07	15·49	26·36
Kálahasti	2·86	13·18	31·40	47·44	0·70	6·60	23·73	31·03
Pólúru	3·23	17·75	17·88	38·36	0·90	9·94	18·48	29·32
Wandiwash	3·73	19·62	22·53	45·88	0·71	10·91	27·12	38·74
Punganúru	3·35	12·62	12·74	28·71	1·05	6·43	6·55	14·03
Salem.								
District average	5·19	14·28	12·21	31·68	1·82	8·79	8·85	19·46
Tiruchengódu	4·89	11·94	11·12	27·95	2·25	5·68	7·76	15·69
Salem	5·62	17·63	11·96	35·21	1·94	8·63	6·28	16·85
Dharmapuri	5·43	13·61	12·40	31·44	1·57	8·16	6·25	15·98
Utangiri	3·68	14·43	13·61	31·72	1·40	9·28	12·33	23·01

Districts and taluks.	Normal.				1891–92.			
	April and May.	June to September.	October to March.	Total.	April and May.	June to September.	October to March.	Total.
Coimbatore.								
District average	5·16	8·27	12·16	25·59	3·57	4·55	12·98	21·10
Pollachi	6·11	12·96	11·14	30·21	7·90	5·72	15·32	28·94
Udamalpet	4·85	3·44	13·59	21·88	1·64	0·70	14·95	17·29
Coimbatore	4·31	5·82	11·65	21·78	2·95	2·27	15·46	20·68
Palladam	4·63	4·00	11·78	20·41	2·82	2·67	18·87	24·36
Dhárapuram	4·44	3·55	11·77	19·76	0·80	3·28	10·36	14·44
Erode	5·31	9·71	11·43	26·45	3·19	7·26	10·78	21·23
Bhaváni	5·03	10·75	12·50	28·28	3·77	10·48	13·26	27·51
Kurnool.								
District average	1·88	18·40	6·92	27·20	1·08	10·51	3·20	14·79
Markapur	2·07	12·24	10·97	25·28	..	4·43	3·90	8·33
Cumbum	2·11	12·12	10·74	24·97	6·18	11·89	3·60	21·67
Koilkuntla	1·70	17·40	5·45	24·55	2·95	12·35	5·27	20·57
Kurnool	2·09	19·56	4·66	26·31	2·14	9·46	2·33	13·93
Pattikonda	1·83	15·24	6·01	23·08	0·74	12·31	3·43	16·48
Bellary.								
District average	2·55	13·66	6·49	22·70	0·97	6·28	2·67	9·92
Adóni	2·08	17·30	5·99	25·37	0·42	7·62	1·82	9·86
Alúr	2·18	13·96	6·40	22·54	0·70	6·72	1·65	9·07
Bellary	1·83	11·85	6·11	19·79	1·40	4·41	2·15	7·96
Ráyadrug	2·50	9·53	7·03	19·06	0·25	4·42	1·60	6·27
Anantapur.								
District average	2·87	12·97	7·90	23·74	0·76	5·63	4·47	10·86
Dharmavaram	2·54	11·03	8·13	21·70	0·65	4·52	2·99	8·16
Anantapur	2·30	12·06	6·82	21·18	0·87	4·14	4·74	9·75
Gooty	2·44	13·44	7·48	23·36	0·04	6·80	3·30	9·84
Tadpatri	1·84	14·48	7·06	23·38	1·00	6·50	4·37	11·87
Cuddapah.								
District average	2·40	14·81	11·91	29·12	0·79	8·92	4·46	14·17
Badvel	1·80	14·53	13·21	29·54	1·20	7·80	2·92	11·92
Sidhout	2·54	18·39	13·56	34·49	0·75	13·98	3·71	18·44
Ráyachóti	1·93	12·95	11·03	25·91	..	4·80	2·03	6·83
Kadiri	2·84	14·90	9·90	27·64	1·20	3·96	4·68	9·84
Madanapalle	3·46	12·10	12·87	28·43	1·22	6·89	6·24	14·35
Vayalpad	2·72	14·04	13·27	30·03	0·90	9·78	5·69	16·27

Everywhere, as already noticed, the south-west monsoon had been bad, but, in the districts which had suffered in the early part of the year, the failure of the early rains had been largely redeemed by the north-east monsoon. In Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Anantapur, North Nellore, and in portions of North Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore a very deficient south-west monsoon had been followed by an equally deficient north-east monsoon. Prices were high everywhere throughout the Presidency owing to the failure of the crops in so many districts and especially high in the districts just named, and it had become certain that large relief works would be necessary, though at the end of 1891 it was difficult, as it always is, to gauge the extent of the distress.

17. *Prices.*—The following statement gives the prices of the principal food-grains in the affected districts and taluks for the months of July, October and December 1891 as compared with the normal and with those which prevailed in the corresponding months in 1876:—

District.	Taluks.	Staple grains.	July. 1876.	July. Normal.	July. 1891.	October. 1876.	October. Normal.	October. 1891.	December. 1876.	December. Normal.	December. 1891.
Nellore	District average.	Cholum ..	26·7	26·1	21·3	17·6	25·3	19·6	8·7	25·3	14·4
		Ragi	29·3	30·2	23·2	18·8	29·1	20·5	8·8	29·1	15·0
	Ongole ..	Cholum ..	25·2	23·7	20·1	20·8	23·5	18·9	9·1	23·3	12·4
		Ragi	31·6	29·2	24·7	24·5	27·5	..	8·8	26·0	..
	Podili ..	Cholum ..	28·4	25·8	22·6	18·5	25·1	21·7	9·7	25·6	16·1
		Ragi	32·5	29·5	27 2	20·1	27·9	23·8	9·1	29·7	17·5
	Udayagiri ..	Cholum ..	23·9	25·0	24·4	16·6	24·2	21·1	8·8	23·7	18·8
		Ragi	27·2	29·3	27·2	15·8	28·6	24·2	9·0	27·3	19·5
	Nellore ..	Cholum ..	26·9	23·5	20·0	14·6	22·8	17·0	7·4	22·7	11·8
		Ragi	26·8	27·5	21·1	16·6	25·9	17·3	7·1	23·8	12·2
	Gudur ..	Cholum ..	26·9	21·6	19·5	..	21·6	17·4	..	21·6	13·0
		Ragi	25·5	25·5	20·2	..	25·5	16·8	..	25·5	13·4
Madras	Madras ..	Rice	11·7	13·8	11·0	9·7	13·3	10·0	7·1	13·5	9·1
		Ragi	19·9	26·7	19·0	13·2	26·8	6·9	8·1	27·1	12·5
Chingleput ..	District average.	Rice	15·4	15·7	10·3	11·6	15·2	10·1	7·9	15·4	9·6
		Ragi	20·5	26 0	17·6	17·0	27·5	15·8	9·4	27·7	20·9
	Ponnéri ..	Rice	15·1	17·1	10·8	12·5	16·1	10·2	8·0	15·3	9·9
		Ragi	19·2	26·9	17·4	17·1	28·1	14·4	9·6	26·4	11·9
	Tiruvallur ..	Rice	12·8	15·0	10·4	10·6	14·4	9·7	8·0	14·5	9·5
		Ragi	18·3	28·2	17·3	16·1	28·9	14·4	9·0	29·0	12·1
	Chingleput ..	Rice	14·4	15·5	10·5	12·3	15·4	10·1	9·0	15·0	9·7
		Ragi	22·3	24·2	17·0	19·1	25·1	16·1	10·7	25·2	12·1
	Madurántakam.	Rice	15 3	16·6	11·2	11·4	16·0	10·3	7·4	15·7	10·3
		Ragi	22·3	25·0	17·1	19·1	26·8	16·1	9·5	26·4	12·5
North Arcot ..	District average.	Cumbu	18·3	25·2	16·4	13·5	28·4	14·3	8·6	27·8	11·2
		Ragi	21·5	30·9	20·6	14·6	31·9	18·9	8·7	31·9	13·1
	Kálahasti ..	Cumbu ..	..	31·5	17·0	..	31·9	15·8	..	30·6	10·9
		Ragi	16·9	33·9	29·4	12·2	34·8	17·3	8·6	33·7	12·7
	Polur ..	Cumbu ..	19·3	27·6	17·2	17·9	31·1	15·2	9·1	27·7	14·4
		Ragi	20·0	27·7	17·8	14·7	30·4	18·4	9·1	30·2	13·5
	Wandiwash ..	Ragi	20·0	26·6	17·3	19·7	27·7	17·3	10·0	29·5	13·1
	Punganúru ..	Ragi	19·7	39·7	25·3	11·3	41·3	21·4	6·9	39·7	12·8
Salem	District average.	Cumbu ..	19·6	25·4	19·5	15·9	29·8	16·6	8·9	29·9	13·0
		Ragi	20·7	30·0	22·6	14·6	32·2	20·0	8·7	32·4	13·1
	Tiruchengódu.	Cumbu ..	17·9	21·8	18·5	16·4	23·6	14·2	9·9	24·8	13·8
		Ragi	19·1	26·6	19·1	15·4	30·5	17·4	9·0	27·9	12·2
	Salem ..	Cumbu ..	20·0	22·6	20·4	16·8	23·5	18·0	8·0	24·6	14·3
		Ragi	21·5	28·8	21·9	15·9	29·2	19·7	8·3	29 8	13·2
	Dharmapuri ..	Ragi	19·0	33·8	24·8	11·3	31·9	21·2	7·7	31·2	12·8
	Uttankarai ..	Cumbu ..	18·0	26·9	20·3	15·5	29·2	16·2	8·4	31·7	12·6
		Ragi	21·0	30·7	21·0	14·3	30·9	20·2	8·5	31·3	13·3
Coimbatore ..	District average.	Cholum ..	19·2	24·2	17·2	15·6	24·6	66·5	8·9	25·4	13·1
		Cumbu ..	20·7	28·4	18·2	18·9	28·7	16·2	11·1	31·2	16·3
	Pollachi ..	Cholum ..	18·8	22·5	15·7	18·9	24·2	18·3	9·5	23·1	14·8
		Cumbu ..	21·2	27·8	..	22·1	27·5	..	11·6	29·3	20·7
	Coimbatore ..	Cholum ..	18·4	21·0	17·7	16·4	22·2	16·6	8·4	22·5	12·6
		Cumbu ..	17·9	23·9	18·1	19·2	23·9	15·6	9·5	24·4	16·3
	Palladam ..	Cholum ..	18·1	20·2	15·8	15·7	20·7	16·3	8·7	19·4	13·0
		Cumbu ..	22·9	28·5	20·7	24·2	28·6	15·9	12·7	30·2	16·6
	Dhárápuram..	Cholum ..	18·3	19·8	16·6	13·0	20·8	15·2	8·2	20·0	14 0
		Cumbu ..	23·6	27·5	18·3	19·7	28·0	15·6	12·3	27·7	13·8
	Bhaváni ..	Cholum ..	18·8	23·8	17·4	12·6	24·6	17 4	8·7	25·4	12·2
		Cumbu ..	17·2	22·6	18·3	15·9	25·6	15·9	10·0	26·5	13·5
Kurnool	District average.	Cholum ..	24·4	23·6	26·7	9·3	30·0	21·5	7·0	31·0	13·4
		Ragi	26·4	30·4	27·3	10·6	29·4	21·2	7·5	31·0	14·8
	Markapur ..	Cholum ..	31·6	27·7	..	14·2	27·4	19·0	7·9	27·9	13·0
		Ragi	34·5	28·5	24·0	16·9	26·6	21·5	7·5	27·0	16·0
	Cumbum ..	Cholum ..	23·7	26·2	21·3	9·5	26·5	20·5	7·9	28·9	13·8
		Ragi	27·0	27·6	24·0	9·0	27 1	20·6	7·5	29·0	13·5
	Koilkuntla ..	Cholum ..	22·9	25·6	28·4	13·8	25·2	23·7	7·1	27·3	12·6
	Ramallakot ..	Do. ..	24·7	27·3	25·0	7·5	26·2	19·9	7 2	26·4	12·0
	Pattikonda ..	Do. ..	27·3	30·6	26·3	9·8	32·8	21·6	8·8	33·7	14·4
Bellary	District average.	Cholum ..	22·0	29·7	26·4	10·2	31·3	21·9	7·4	32·3	14·2
	Ádóni ..	Do. ..	24·7	26·4	23·2	11·1	27·1	19·1	8·2	29·1	13·9
	Alúr	Do. ..	23·7	26·3	27·4	10·8	29·9	22·0	6·9	29·6	13·3
	Bellary ..	Do. ..	21·6	26 6	27·9	9·3	27·7	20·9	7·7	29·3	13·7
	Rayadrug ..	Do. ..	20·6	28·6	25·0	10·3	29·7	21·6	7·2	33·4	13·4
Anantapur ..	District average.	Cholum ..	23·2	31·1	27·7	10·6	31·7	21·0	7·5	32·6	12·4
	Dharmavaram.	Do. ..	25·2	29·6	26 8	11·3	29·7	20·6	7·2	32·2	11·4
	Anantapur ..	Do. ..	25·5	27·7	25·2	11·5	31 5	20·8	8·0	32·4	13·5
	Gooty ..	Do. ..	25·0	26·8	25·8	10·8	30·2	20·3	8·2	33·2	13·4
	Tadpatri ..	Do. ..	22·7	24·9	23·7	10·6	26·1	20·5	8·0	27·2	12·6

District.	Taluks.	Staple grains.	July.			October.			December.		
			1876.	Normal.	1891.	1876.	Normal.	1891.	1876.	Normal.	1891.
Cuddapah ..	District average.	Cholum	21·9	29·0	23·5	11·8	29·6	17·8	7·2	30·4	12·7
		Cumbu	21·1	29·0	18·6	11·6	30·0	16·2	7·4	31·0	13·0
		Ragi	22·7	33·1	25·9	12·0	33·0	19·5	7·4	33·9	14·0
	Badvel ..	Cholum	23·7	25·7	22·1	13·4	24·7	18·2	7·1	26·3	12·5
		Ragi	25·9	28·4	24·0	13·1	27·5	21·2	7·7	27·0	13·1
	Siddhavattam.	Cholum	20·5	23·1	18·2	13·0	23·4	15·8	7·5	22·8	12·2
		Ragi	24·0	29·1	24·0	14·6	28·2	19·5	8·5	27·3	14·3
	Ráyachóti ..	Cumbu	23·2	30 9	19·0	12·0	32·0	16·7	8·7	34·5	14·5
		Ragi	24·0	34·4	27·8	12·8	35·2	19·5	7·5	36·2	15·0
	Kadiri ..	Cumbu	23·9	32·0	23·2	12·3	33·1	15·2	6·5	36·8	13·1
		Ragi	24·8	34·5	31·9	12·8	34·6	18·6	7·1	38·3	15·0
	Madanapalle..	Cumbu	16·7	31·3	17·6	12·0	34·1	14·5	6·5	34·7	12·5
		Ragi	18 8	40·9	27·9	11·3	44·6	21·0	6·8	44·2	13·1
	Vayalpad ..	Cumbu	16·0	32·2	16·6	8·0	32·6	14·2	5·4	34·2	13·2
		Ragi	16·5	40·0	25·4	8 3	39·8	19·1	6·0	38·4	14·4

18. In the districts which had suffered from the failure of the rains in 1890, the rise in prices had been continuous since the beginning of the year though it had been very gradual and had been much mitigated by the great activity of the grain trade. With the failure of the south-west monsoon the rise in these districts became more rapid, and the sudden cessation of imports from the Deccan districts and Mysore towards the end of the year, consequent on the failure of the crops in those districts, sent prices up almost to famine rates. It did so, however, at a time when the advent of the rains had afforded the usual employment to all agricultural labourers, and placed them in a position to bear with less difficulty the enormous rise in the price of their ordinary food.

In the Deccan districts, the rise to the scarcity or famine rate approached in its suddenness to the experiences of 1876. In the Bellary district, which all indications in 1891 pointed out as the district most likely to suffer severely from the failure of the harvests, the price of cholum rose from 26·1 imperial seers per rupee in August to 17·1 seers in November and to 14·2 in December. In the Cumbum and Markapur taluks of Kurnool, with an affected area of about 1,645 square miles containing a population of 158,772, the price of ragi, which in July averaged 24 imperial seers per rupee, had risen in November to 20·5 seers and in December to 14·7 seers and was to rise in the succeeding month to 12·4 seers, the normal price for December being 26·8.

In the Darsi and Podili taluks of Nellore, with an affected area estimated at 1,180 square miles and a population of 153,097, the price of ragi had risen from 22·9 imperial seers per rupee in October to 17·5 seers in December and was to rise in January to 13·9 seers, the usual price in January being 27·5.

In the four taluks of Cuddapah which form the sub-division, in which the area over which the crops seriously failed amounted to about 2,329 square miles with a population of about 313,263, the price of ragi, which had ranged considerably above the normal rate since December 1890, rose from 28·2 seers in July—a month in which the normal price is about 37·4 imperial seers per rupee—to 19·6 seers in October and to 14·6 seers in December, in which month the normal price is about 39 seers.

19. *Numbers employed on works.*—The numbers to whom employment was given on public works during the six months ending December 1891 are shown below :—

Districts.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
Tinnevelly	729	524	..	..	..	..
Coimbatore	1,620	3,313	6,912	4,298	3,986	2,885
Salem	..	..	..	7,393	4,167	3,821
North Arcot	6,571	8,499	10,248	10,408	5,287	2,856
Chingleput	7,157	7,515	7,289	7,899	5,747	3,571
Nellore	398	2,502	3,885	3,916	1,030	1,153
Cuddapah	159	397	1,385	744	259	..
Kurnool	..	..	..	..	1,351	2,179
Bellary	..	..	..	..	..	1,839
Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	394
Total ..	16,634	22,750	29,719	34,658	21,827	18,698

Relief works in Tinnevelly were closed in August, but for some two or three months before that date they had ceased practically to be relief works and were kept open in view to the completion of the works which consisted of repairs to the small irrigation tanks. In Coimbatore, the maximum monthly average numbers, 6,912, were reached in September and it was found possible to close all the works in December, though a failure of the rains in one taluk necessitated their being re-opened in the succeeding April. In Salem, the failure of the south-west monsoon rains following on a previous bad season necessitated the opening in September of relief works in four taluks, to which between 7,000 and 8,000 labourers at once resorted. Good rains, however, falling shortly afterwards enabled all relief works to be closed in three out of the four taluks. The numbers on works consequently fell from an average of 7,393 in October to an average of 3,821 in December. In North Arcot, the failure of the early monsoon rains largely increased the numbers in need of employment, which rose from 7,208 in June to 10,408 in October. The good rains of October, however, brought the usual agricultural employment, and the numbers fell to an average of 2,856 in December and to 736 in January, when all works in the hitherto affected tracts were closed.

In Chingleput, the average monthly numbers were highest in June, when they reached 8,055. They remained steady at about 7,000 till October, when they rose to an average of 7,899, the highest figures having been reached on the 3rd October, when they stood at 10,007. The good rains in October, however, led to a speedy fall in the numbers. The average numbers employed in December were 3,571, and the works were all closed early in January.

20. In Nellore, it was not found necessary to give any State relief on works till July. The numbers resorting to works in the affected tracts, which during 1891 were confined to the southern portion of the district, ranged from 398 in July to an average of 3,916 in October, when the coming of the rains led to a reduction in the numbers to an average of 1,153 in December when all the works in the hitherto affected portion of the district were closed. The failure of the rains of 1891-92 carried distress into a new portion of the district, where in January 1892 it was found necessary to commence State relief.

In Cuddapah, the distress during 1891 was confined to a single taluk—Ráyachóti—and the numbers never rose above a monthly average of 1,385, the figure reached in September, and it was found possible to close all works in November, though the necessity for opening them again in that and several other taluks speedily arose.

The failure of rains in the Deccan districts led to the opening of works in Kurnool in November and in the Bellary and Anantapur districts in December. The Commissioner had in each case travelled through the tracts in which failure of crops had occurred and had satisfied himself that the loss to the agriculturists must inevitably be very serious.

21. The average numbers employed monthly between July and December throughout the tracts in which relief works were opened in the early part of the year are shown in the margin. The numbers in these tracts fell to 1,304 in January when the works were finally closed in all but a small area. The failure of the rains meanwhile in the Deccan districts, in North Nellore, and in Salem had carried distress into new and extensive tracts, so that the numbers on relief works in all districts taken together for the last three months of the year, October being the month which saw the first extension of the area of distress into Salem, were—

July	16,634
August	22,750
September	29,719
October	27,265
November	16,309
December	10,465

October	34,568
November	21,827
December	18,698

22. *Gratuitous relief.*—The numbers on gratuitous relief during the last six months of the year continued to bear a comparatively small proportion to the numbers on

works, though the careful inspections made in the affected tracts left no doubt that the relief granted, which was refused to none in need, was sufficient to meet the needs of all willing to accept it. The following statement shows the numbers gratuitously relieved monthly in each district for the period in question :—

Districts.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
Coimbatore	..	..	466	875	782	401
Salem	..	..	..	182	239	308
North Arcot	1,794	2,994	4,374	3,339	2,197	1,455
Chingleput	540	1,752	2,107	1,950	905	133
Cuddapah	..	7	14	4	..	..
Kurnool	..	..	..	..	..	67
Total ..	2,334	4,753	6,961	6,350	4,123	2,364

In the first half of the year gratuitous relief was granted in the Chingleput and North Arcot districts only. During the latter half of the year it continued to be granted in these two districts and was extended to Cuddapah in August where, however, it was found afterwards to be unnecessary, to Coimbatore in September and to Salem in October. The failure of the rains in the Deccan and in North Nellore led to the opening of relief kitchens in Kurnool in December, and in Anantapur in the succeeding January. In the other districts in which relief works were carried on in 1892, gratuitous relief was found necessary on a very limited scale and was not extended to the Punganúru zemindari, the newly affected portion of North Arcot, nor to Bellary and Cuddapah till March, nor to Nellore till May.

23. *Third period, January* 1892 *to September* 1892.—During this period, with the exception of the early portion of the month of January when works were being finally closed in the areas which had suffered through the whole of the year 1891, distress was limited to the four Deccan districts, to North Nellore, to one taluk (the Punganúru zemindari) in North Arcot, and to the Tiruchengódu taluk in Salem, and to a limited area in the Bhavâni taluk of the Coimbatore district.

24. In December, in which month the monsoon ends in the Deccan districts and North Nellore, the failure of the rains had been more or less disastrous in portions of eight districts, and the area of the tracts seriously affected or likely to be seriously affected at an early date were in the report on the state of the season for that month estimated at 21,366 square miles with a population of $3\frac{1}{2}$ millions, an estimate which was raised in January to an area of 31,069 square miles in nine districts with a population of 4,980,000 as shown below :—

District.	Total.		Affected portion.		
	Area.	Population in thousands.	Area.	Population in thousands.	Particulars.
	SQ. MLS.		SQ. MLS.		
Kistna	8,397	1,856	1,795	234	One taluk and portions of three.
Nellore	8,765	1,464	5,837	943	Eight taluks.
Kurnool	7,514	818	3,159	336	Two taluks and portions of six.
Bellary	5,975	900	4,639	750	Five taluks and portions of three.
Anantapur	5,275	709	3,707	479	Four taluks.
Cuddapah	8,722	1,272	5,277	700	Five taluks and portions of two.
North Arcot	7,616	2,180	648	92	One taluk.
Salem	7,529	1,963	5,112	1,342	Six taluks.
Coimbatore	7,860	2,005	895	104	Portions of two taluks.
Total ..	67,653	13,166	31,069	4,980	

In the above nine districts, in all of which it was anticipated in January that distress would be severe, it was found eventually necessary to open works in all but the Kistna district, but the lapse of two months showed that the effect of the failure, of the rains would be less serious than was anticipated over large areas in Kistna Nellore, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Salem and Coimbatore, and the

statement of affected areas submitted with the report for March, which is summarised below, shows with fair accuracy the areas in which the failure of the rains involved serious distress to the ryots :—

District.	Total.		Affected portion.		
	Area.	Population in thousands.	Area.	Population in thousands.	Particulars.
	SQ. MLS.		SQ. MLS.		
Kistna	8,397	1,856	1,354	151	One taluk and a portion of another.
Nellore	8,765	1,464	4,502	711	Six taluks.
Kurnool	7,514	818	2.975	316	Two taluks and portions of four.
Bellary	5,975	900	2,836	473	Three taluks and portion of one.
Anantapur	5,275	709	3,707	479	Four taluks.
Cuddapah	8,722	1,272	4,768	597	Five taluks and portion of one.
North Arcot	7,616	2,180	648	92	One taluk.
Salem	7,529	1,963	1,562	666	Two taluks.
Coimbatore	7,860	2,005	357	60	Portion of one taluk.
Total ..	67,653	13,166	22,709	3,545	

The area shown as affected in this statement was 22,709 square miles with a population of a little over $3\frac{1}{2}$ millions.

25. *Prices, January* 1892 *to September* 1892.—The prices ruling in each taluk in the affected tracts during the months of January, April, June and September 1892 are shown in the subjoined statement compared with the normal prices :—

Districts.	Taluks.	Staple-grains.	January.		April.		June.		September.	
			Normal.	1892.	Normal.	1892.	Normal.	1892.	Normal.	1892.
Nellore	Ongole	Cholum	23·5	12·7	24·0	14·4	23·5	14·4	23·5	21·6
		Ragi	26·1	..	28·5	17·0	30·0	17·0	28·5	17·0
	Darsi	Cholum	24·5	14·0	25·6	13·6	25·1	13·6	23·6	14·5
		Ragi	26·1	14·2	27·2	13·6	27·1	13·6	26·2	16·0
	Podili	Cholum	25·9	13·8	25·1	12·7	26·1	12·7	25·2	17·2
		Ragi	29·0	13·7	29·5	13·6	28·6	13·6	29·0	18·7
	Kanigiri	Cholum	26·5	15·3	28·3	13·5	26·6	12·7	26·3	15·7
		Ragi	30·1	13·6	31·4	14·0	30·6	13·6	30·1	16·5
	Udayagiri	Cholum	23·6	12·7	24·2	14·4	24·9	14·5	24·5	15·4
		Ragi	26·7	14·1	28·5	15·3	29·7	16·2	29·0	18·5
Kurnool	Markapur	Cholum	29·0	12·8	27·7	14·5	27·7	13·8	27·5	17·4
		Ragi	27·0	12·8	28·2	13·6	28·5	14 6	27·5	17·6
	Cumbum	Cholum	26·7	12·6	26·1	12·6	24·1	13·4	25·4	18·0
		Ragi	28·1	12·0	27·8	13·5	27·6	14·3	26·9	17·6
	Koilkuntla	Cholum	27·3	12·6	27·2	14·2	26·5	13·4	25·2	20·1
	Pattikonda	Do.	31·3	14·7	29·5	15·2	28·0	15·3	31·9	19·8
Bellary	Adoni	Do.	28·0	14·4	26·4	14·4	26·0	14·3	29·1	18·0
	Alur	Do.	27·3	13·4	27·8	14·3	27·5	14·1	28·6	19·2
	Bellary	Do.	28·7	14·7	28·3	14·7	27·6	14·2	27·5	21·1
	Rayadrug	Do.	32·7	14·6	30·9	16·2	28·6	15·5	29·3	23·0
Anantapur	Dharmavaram. ..	Do.	31·7	12·6	28·9	14·9	29·2	15·8	28·8	20·2
	Anantapur	Do.	32·8	13·4	28·7	13·8	28·3	14·9	28·6	17·5
	Gooty	Do.	32·9	13·4	27·5	14·2	26·5	13·7	30·0	19·6
	Tadpatri	Do.	28·0	14·5	25·9	13·4	26 3	14·4	26·0	18·2
Cuddapah	Badvel	Cholum	25·8	12·4	25·6	12·9	25·8	13·0	25 2	15·4
		Ragi	26·8	13·3	27·5	13·5	28·5	15·8	27·9	17·6
	Rayachoti	Cumbu	34·3	13·1	30·3	13·4	30·8	14·5	30·2	17·4
		Ragi	35·1	15·0	34·9	15·4	34·5	15·2	33·8	20·0
	Madanapalle ..	Cumbu	34·6	11·6	32·0	11·6	30·7	11·6	31·3	14·0
		Ragi	42·9	13·9	39·6	17·3	41·3	17·3	40·6	23·2
	Vayalpad	Cumbu	31·9	12·4	30·9	12·3	33·3	12·2	31·3	12·7
		Ragi	40·0	13·5	39 8	15·8	40·0	16·5	39·0	18·8
North Arcot ..	Punganuru	Ragi	40·5	13·4	40·3	15·1	40·7	16·8	39·3	22·7
Salem	Tirchengodu ..	Cumbu	24·0	13·2	21·4	13·0	25·3	12·2	22·4	21·2
		Ragi	26·8	12·1	27·8	12·6	27·0	12·9	25·7	19·6
Coimbatore ..	Bhavani	Cumbu	25·7	15·9	24·0	15·1	23·1	12·7	23·1	19·1

A comparison between the figures given in this statement and those in the statement appended to paragraph 10 above will show how very much higher the range of price was in the tracts affected in 1892 than in those affected in 1891.

While the prices in Tiruvallúr and Ponnéri, the worst affected tracts in Chingleput, one of the early affected districts, had not by June 1891 become dearer than

19 seers per rupee, the price of ragi, the staple grain in the Cumbum and Markapur taluks of Kurnool, was never in the first six months of 1892 cheaper than 15·9 seers per rupee, and generally ranged between 12 and 14 seers per rupee.

In the worst affected tracts in North Arcot in 1891, the prices of the staple food-grain in the first six months ranged between 19·7 and 21·8 seers per rupee, while during the first six months of 1892, the prices in the Alúr, Adóni and Bellary taluks of the Bellary district were never cheaper than 15·4 seers per rupee and were generally between 14 and 15 seers only per rupee.

The prices of ragi, the staple grain in the sub-division of Cuddapah in the first six months of 1892, ranged between 13·3, the dearest taluk average in January, to 17·2, the cheapest taluk average in any other month of the six.

26. The very much higher range of prices in 1892 than in 1891 was due mainly of course to the very much larger area affected in 1892 by the failure of rains. Prices in the distressed tracts in the Chingleput and North Arcot districts in 1891 were largely kept down by importations from their neighbouring unaffected districts, notably from the Deccan districts, which were tempted by the comparatively high prices prevailing in 1891 to part with a large quantity of their surplus grain unconscious of the severe distress which was so soon to fall upon themselves. The distress in 1892 was so severe in so large an area and the surplus produce in the Presidency generally was so small that resort had to be made largely to other provinces for the grain required in the Deccan at a cost which forbad any expectation of keeping prices at the point maintained in the distressed areas in 1891.

27. The effect of the bad seasons of 1890–91 and 1891–92 on the prices of food-grains in the Presidency will be seen from the subjoined statement which gives the Presidency prices of the principal food-grains in each of the past nineteen years:—

Fasli or year ending 30th June.	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholum.		Cumbu.
			Including Trichinopoly and Madura.	Excluding Trichinopoly and Madura.*	
	I. SEERS.	I. SEERS.	I. SEERS.	I. SEERS.	I. SEERS.
1283 (1873–74)	15·6	27·8	25·3	25·2	25·4
1284 (1874–75)	16·0	29·0	26·4	26·4	27·0
1285 (1875–76)	15·5	27·1	25·9	25·4	25·8
1286 (1876–77)	10·2	15·1	14·7	14·4	15·1
1287 (1877–78)	8·0	11·3	11·3	10·6	11·5
1288 (1878–79)	9·8	15·9	14·8	14·6	15·7
1289 (1879–80)	13·6	23·0	21·8	21·6	22·6
1290 (1880–81)	15·5	30·2	29·3	28·7	28·4
1291 (1881–82)	16·1	32·2	31·5	30·5	30·2
1292 (1882–83)	16·1	32·6	31·4	30·3	30·5
1293 (1883–84)	16·0	32·3	31·4	30·0	30·4
1294 (1884–85)	13·9	26·7	24·6	24·0	24·0
1295 (1885–86)	13·9	26·5	23·9	23·1	23·8
1296 (1886–87)	15·2	29·1	27·7	26·6	26·7
1297 (1887–88)	15·6	30·4	28·3	27·9	26·5
1298 (1888–89)	14·3	27·9	25·5	25·1	23·8
1299 (1889–90)	13·1	27·4	24·4	24·2	23·6
1300 (1890–91)	12·6	25·2	23·4	23·6	22·7
1301 (1891–92)	10·5	17·8	16·9	16·8	16·4

* Trichinopoly and Madura are excluded owing to the inclusion of rates for an inferior variety in some cases for these districts.

28. Though prices in the affected tracts were everywhere exceptionally high, it will be observed by a reference to the appendix that they nowhere touched the prices in the great famine, though the rapid rise in prices in parts of the Bellary, Kurnool and Nellore districts towards the end of 1891 gave grave ground for fear that these prices would be approached.

While in the Cumbum and Markapur taluks of Kurnool the prices of the staple grain ranged between 12 and 14 seers per rupee in the first six months of 1892, the

prices in the same period in 1877—distress having begun to be seriously felt in the last few months of 1876—were about 9 seers per rupee and in the first month of the six were as high as 7·5 seers per rupee. In the Adóni, Alúr and Bellary taluks of the Bellary district, where the prices of grain in the first six months of 1877 were between 7 and 8 seers per rupee, they were in the same months of 1892 between 14 and 15 seers per rupee.

The highest prices reached in each affected district during the recent period of distress and the date of the highest price are shown below :—

Districts.	Rice.			Cholum.		
	Seers per rupee.	Taluk.	Month.	Seers per rupee.	Taluk.	Month.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Coimbatore	7·4	Palladam ..	April 1892 ..	10·6	Bhaváni ..	May 1892.
Salem	8·6	Dharmapuri ..	December 1891 to September 1892.	..	..	..
North Arcot	9·0	Kalahasti ..	December 1891 and February 1892.	..	..	..
Chingleput	8·7	Saidapet ..	June 1892 .. July ,, .. August ,, ..	..	..	..
Nellore	8·0	Gudur ..	February 1892.	12·4	Ongole ..	December 1891.
Cuddapah	7·1	Sidhout ..	December 1891. January 1892 .. May ,, .. June ,, ..	11·4	Madanapalle ..	Do.
Anantapur	7·6	Dharmavaram. Gooty ..	December 1891. December 1891 to June 1892.	11·4	Dharmavaram ..	Do.
Bellary	7·8	Rayadrug ..	December 1891.	13·3	Alúr	Do.
Kurnool	7·5	Koilkuntla ..	December 1891 to March 1892.	12·0	Rámallakót ..	Do.
Kistna	7·6	Palnad ..	December 1891.	12·4	Palnad ..	Do.

Districts.	Ragi.			Cumbu.		
	Seers per rupee.	Taluk.	Month.	Seers per rupee.	Taluk.	Month.
	8	9	10	11	12	13
Coimbatore	13·1	Bhavani ..	December 1891 to February 1892.	11·8	Erode ..	January 1892.
Salem	11·8	Tiruchengodu.	February and March 1892.	11·0	Salem ..	Do.
North Arcot	12·7	Kalahasti ..	February 1892.	..	..	..
Chingleput	11·1	Chingleput ..	March 1892 ..	..	..	..
Nellore	11·5	Nellore .. Gúdúr ..	February 1892. December 1891 to March 1892.	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Cuddapah	13·1	Badvel ..	December 1891.	10·9	Váyalpád ..	March 1892.
Kurnool	12·0	Cumbum ..	January 1892 ..	..	..	..
Kistna	..	..	..	13·6	Vinukonda ..	February 1892.

29. *Numbers resorting to the works.*—The average numbers who resorted in each month to the special works opened for the relief of distress are shown in the subjoined statement :—

District.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
Nellore	5,841	3,753	5,688	6,644	11,107	22,744	16,723	2,846	..
Kurnool	6,956	13,020	20,263	24,421	28,647	25,100	17,094	10,141	2,339
Bellary	5,586	6,035	7,297	9,138	12,806	18,010	10,730	5,429	601
Anantapur	515	487	910	1,159	1,211	1,234	141	..	..
Cuddapah	2,997	3,513	5,094	9,095	11,959	11,402	5,680	2,383	257
North Arcot	736	87	161	690	1,514	1,798	471	..	..
Chingleput	236	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salem	4,473	4,543	2,679	4,979	5,887	6,652	4,273	695	..
Coimbatore	..	..	..	..	542	704	647	278	..
Total ...	27,340	31,438	42,092	56,668	73,835	87,587	55,390	21,494	3,197

There was no considerable increase in the numbers employed in February over those employed in January. A steady increase, however, then commenced and the numbers of the employed rose from 31,000 in February to an average of 42,000 in March, 56,000 in April, 74,000 in May and 87,000 in June, the highest numbers employed in any week being 92,353, in the week ending 18th June, though the maximum numbers had been previously reached and a decrease had already set in in several districts in which good rain had fallen. The rains of June, which were exceptionally favorable in the Deccan districts, and the rains of July, which were equally favorable in North Nellore, speedily, however, led to a diminution in the numbers seeking relief, which fell to an average of 55,000 in July and of 21,000 in August, by the end of which month it was found possible to close relief works everywhere with the exception of the Cumbum and Markapur taluks of Kurnool, the Alúr taluk of Bellary, and the Ráyachóti taluk of Cuddapah where they were, however, closed in the succeeding month.

30. Judging by the numbers seeking relief, the areas which suffered most from distress owing to want of employment were the Ráyachóti and Badvel taluks of Cuddapah, the Udayagiri, Podili and Darsi taluks of Nellore, the Cumbum, Markapur and Koilkuntla taluks of Kurnool, the Adóni, Alúr and Bellary taluks of Bellary, and the Tiruchengódu taluk of Salem. In these taluks the numbers on relief works during the week in which in each respective taluk they had attained their maximum, bore the following percentages to the total population of the taluk according to the last census :—

District.	Taluk.	Population of taluk.	Highest number employed in any week.	Highest percentage employed of total population.
Cuddapah	Ráyachóti	113,236	4,182	3·7
	Badvel	93,152	5,683	6·1
Nellore	Udayagiri	100,227	7,090	7·1
	Podili	68,466	18,733	12·2
	Darsi	84,631		
Kurnool	Cumbum	117,602	13,596	11·6
	Markapur	99,971	9,347	9·3
	Koilkuntla	86,544	4,488	5·2
Bellary	Adóni	160,795	4,566	2·8
	Alúr	88,088	11,877	13·5
	Bellary	180,353	3,547	2·0
Salem	Tiruchengódu	248,679	7,185	2·9

31. *Gratuitous relief.*—The numbers gratuitously relieved in each month during the period are shown below. They bear a peculiarly small proportion to the numbers on works, a state of things attributable largely to the fact that labour even on the very small wage allowed was everywhere generally preferred to idleness and that all capable of work were encouraged to do something to help themselves. The kitchens were largely intended for the support of those children of the labourers on the works who were too young to do anything, but much unwillingness to send their

young children to the kitchens was evinced by the labourers, and as the children were found to continue in good health and condition notwithstanding their failure to resort to the kitchens, little pressure was put upon them to make them do so.

Districts.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
Nellore	..	..	..	..	95	111	175	122	7
Kurnool	332	412	438	454	487	582	449	335	123
Bellary	..	..	37	29	29	42	45	31	..
Anantapur	278	571	240	146	131	60	20	..	..
Cuddapah	..	..	6	16	73	81	55	2	..
North Arcot	356	..	30	60	52	45	17	..	..
Salem	292	250	234	211	204	173	112	58	..
Coimbatore	63	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,321	1,233	985	916	1,071	1,094	873	548	130

32. The deficiency of the rainfall, the failure of crops and the measures taken to relieve the distress among the agricultural population consequent upon this failure have been detailed in the preceding paragraphs. It remains to consider first the necessity, and second, the suitability and the adequacy of the special measures taken to meet the distress.

33. *Necessity for special measures of relief.*—The cost to the State of providing employment to all comers willing to work may be so enormous; the difficulty of preventing abuse in the event of very large numbers resorting to works is so serious and the risk of demoralising the labourers by the grant of a wage for an inadequate amount of work is so great that a Government may well hesitate to admit that it must face these risks and provide work for all comers at a cost which it is impossible to calculate.

34. An extensive failure of crops must in any country produce much distress, but it is inevitable that it should do so in a country, where, as in Southern India, the land is held in innumerable small properties by proprietors possessed of little, if any, agricultural capital beyond the animals and the few instruments actually used in the tillage of the farm.

The failure of the crops of a single year in Southern India must deprive the majority of the petty landholders and labourers affected of their ordinary means of livelihood, and unless employment can be obtained by them under the richer landholders in the distressed tracts or in the neighbouring tracts which have been unaffected, or not so seriously affected by the drought, they must look to the State for their maintenance until a more favorable season shall bring them their wonted means of livelihood. Not only are they deprived of the produce of their land, but they have inevitably to face in the present state of the country with its restricted means of communication a large rise in the price of the necessaries of life—a rise to double, as in the recent distress, or it may be to four times the normal prices, as in the great famine in Bellary, and a failure of the grass and water which is generally concurrent with a failure of the crops adds to the ryots' difficulties in maintaining himself and his family, the serious difficulty of keeping alive his cattle on which his future livelihood depends, or the equally serious difficulty of finding a purchaser for them at a reasonable price.

35. The necessity of affording relief at the cost of the State when a failure of the crops is likely to lead to famine is admitted, and though it is desirable that no inducement should be held out to the people by the untimely opening of relief works to rely solely on the aid of the State when other suitable private employment might be obtainable, it is essential, if the object of relief is to be obtained, that the relief works shall be provided before the labourers have lost their strength. It is equally essential that the works opened to give relief to the distressed shall be so managed as to give employment not only to able-bodied labourers accustomed to work, but to all who are in actual need, a limitation of the wage and the exaction of a suitable task being relied on to prevent all but the really needy from seeking employment. The need for relief is not restricted to the able-bodied labourer accustomed to road or tank

work, but may be expected amongst all who are directly depending upon the crop which has failed and amongst the whole of the poorer portions of the population which find that their earnings, where they can find any employment at all, are, owing to the rise in the price of food, insufficient for their maintenance. For these weak ones not less than for the able-bodied the provision of relief is necessary, and it is likely to be necessary for the former sooner than for the latter.

While as already stated there may be some risk that an untimely opening of relief works may induce the people to rely too largely on the aid of the State when other suitable private employment might be obtainable, there is on the other hand very great danger in postponing the opening of works for any length of time after the failure of the harvest has made it *primâ facie* certain that numbers must be in need, not only because of the sufferings which such a course must entail on those who have been deprived of their ordinary means of livelihood, but because the influx of labourers is likely then to be so large as to render a proper organization of relief a matter of the greatest difficulty.

36. Among large crowds of labourers who have abandoned in panic the means of subsistence however limited which they may have possessed near their homes and have resorted *en masse* to the Government relief works, it is at first difficult, if not impossible, to enforce a suitable task, while the withholding of any considerable portion of the small famine wage on the ground that it has not been earned means great suffering imposed on the labourer for what is not his fault. The difficulty of ensuring an adequate grain supply in the vicinity of works to which there is a sudden access of large numbers must also be considered. Large sums of money may be expended, and indeed must be expended, in the payment of the crowds resorting to the work, but little work will have been performed for the money, and there will be no certainty that the money expended will have served its purpose in maintaining life owing to the uncertainty whether grain will be forthcoming to meet the enormously increased local demand for it.

37. In the great famine of 1876–78 much of the early and ineffectual expenditure and much of the loss of life seems to be attributable to the neglect to open works at a sufficiently early date, and to the fact that when works were eventually opened the numbers resorting to them were so enormous as to render efficient control for weeks impossible.

In the Bellary district the fact that relief works would almost certainly be necessary was realized at an early period in 1876, but in the taluks in which the results showed that the need for relief was most urgent, that is, Adóni, Alúr and Bellary, they were postponed till September. The numbers relieved, which in July 1876 were, for the district as a whole, only a few thousands, rose to 36,000 in the middle of October, to 174,000 in the middle of November and to 347,000 on the 30th December.

In the Kurnool district there was in May 1876 no idea that any relief work would be needed. The season in the year 1875–76 was not considered to have been exceptionally unfavorable. There had been no appreciable rise in prices up to March and the Collector reported to the Board in May after a tour he had made through the district that "there was no tract affected or likely to be affected by anything approaching to a scarcity or a drought." Before three months, however, were over the south-west monsoon on which the district mainly relies had partly failed and relief works were demanded by the Divisional officers in the Markapur taluk and in the Koilkuntla taluk. The opening of works in the district generally as in Markapur was, however, delayed till October when they were opened everywhere. By the middle of November the numbers employed had risen to 67,000 and by the end of the same month to 126,000. On the 16th December they were 203,500 and on the 30th December 254,600.

sufficient establishments, and probably also to the inability of vast numbers assembled in a single spot to get grain even when money was available that the outbreak of cholera was due, which in December 1876 and January and February 1877 carried off, according to the village death returns, 14,002 in Bellary, 9,494 in Kurnool, and 21,917 in Cuddapah—numbers which, large as they are, take no account of the deaths on the relief works among the three quarters of a million people who lined the road works or of those who fell victims to the disease away from their villages before joining the works.

39. In the recent famine in Ganjám in 1889, the warning of the great famine was so far followed that works were opened at an early date after the commencement of distress was recognized. A very fatal error was made, however, in restricting the grant of employment to the able-bodied and in refusing employment to those unable to turn out a fair day's work. Although severe distress was prevalent in the early part of the year, no works guaranteeing employment to all comers willing to work were opened in the plains until the beginning of May and the consequences of the delay in affording employment to the needy were disastrous. A visit of His Excellency the Governor to the district in June 1889 and a tour through the most distressed tracts convinced him that "a large amount of distress amounting to starvation existed, and that the most urgent orders and the most prompt action were required if many lives were not to be lost by the most lingering and dreadful of all deaths." The time, however, for relieving the people by the opening of works had slipped by, and the grant of gratuitous relief on a lavish scale had become necessary. The numbers relieved by the grant of grain or money doles as being incapable or unfit to labour increased from 9,000 in the first fortnight in June to upwards of 27,000 by the end of the month, the figures at the end of the four succeeding weeks in July being 30,625, 49,431, 69,521 and 70,184, respectively, until the highest figure, 93,561, was reached on the 3rd August. The numbers fed in kitchens, which, during the first week of their opening (the third week in June), averaged 1,967, increased to upwards of 9,000 in the second week in July and to 11,632, the highest numbers recorded on the 10th August. Between that date and the end of the third week in September, the numbers fluctuated between 11,000 and 10,000, and then with the improvement in the season and in agricultural prospects began rapidly to decrease till at the end of October it was found possible to close the kitchens altogether. The numbers on grain and money doles were reduced in the last three weeks in August to an average of 51,191; by the end of September the numbers so relieved had been reduced to 28,000, and by the end of the following month it was found possible to discontinue this form of relief altogether.

The cost incurred in gratuitous relief was Rs. 3,49,438–0–5, of which no less than Rs. 2,61,865–13–1 was expended in money-doles. The expenditure on work carried out to give employment to the needy was Rs. 2,44,915–9–11.

40. The determination of the period at which relief works become necessary is one of some difficulty, but reliance may, as a rule, be placed on the demand of the people for employment, especially in tracts where the rules under which relief works are administered are known to the people and the limited wage which alone is admissible under the Famine Code for all but the really able-bodied minority, coupled with the prescribed task, may, in the Commissioner's opinion, be safely looked to to keep all but those who are really in need from resorting to the works.

41. The experience of the past two years has shown that where the distress was great, labourers gladly accepted the proffered work notwithstanding the lowness of the wage, but that where any other work was obtainable, the famine relief works were not resorted to. Numerous instances may be adduced to show that a properly tasked relief work will not attract those who can find work elsewhere. In the Gooty taluk of Anantapur, a taluk with a population of 142,197, where the failure of crops was undeniably very large, no works were found necessary, while in the immediately adjoining taluk of Alúr in the Bellary district the numbers employed exceeded 6,000 in three months, May, June, and July 1892, and reached in the 3rd week of June the large figure of 11,877. There is little difference in the general condition of the population in the two taluks concerned, and in the great famine of 1876–78 each

of these taluks went through the extremity of suffering, the numbers in the Gooty taluk during the early months of the famine, November, December 1876 and January 1877 averaging 22,000, while those in Alúr averaged 24,000. The particular circumstances of the year 1892, however, among them being the fact that the recent construction of a railway through the taluk had thrown much money into the hands of the working classes, were such as to enable the Gooty taluk to weather the storm without recourse to Government, and of its own will it did so, while the Alúr people had to succumb. Regarding the failure of the Gooty labourer to resort to the works, the Collector of Anantapur writes :—

"How the people in the north and west of Gooty taluk tided over the season is a mystery to me. In the neighbouring taluk of Alúr extensive relief was necessary and the conditions of soil and rainfall are similar. I was besieged by persons at Wajra Karur and Uravakonda demanding relief, and on account of loud complaints opened a kitchen at Uravakonda. On providing work not a soul would stir. It is the more inexplicable, as in 1884, when the famine was much less sore in the land, a great deal of earthwork on the Dharmavaram-Guntakal Railway was done."

In the Hadagalli taluk of Bellary, the Collector, who had visited the taluk during the harvest season towards the end of 1891, came to the conclusion that the large failure of crops, of which his inspection had convinced him, and which had also been witnessed by the Commissioner, was such as must inevitably compel a resort to relief works on the part of considerable numbers of the population. Relief works were opened on precisely the same terms as those which drew thousands of poor labourers in the taluks of Alúr and Adóni of the same district, but none resorted to them. Emigration to neighbouring and more favored districts, coupled in some cases with savings from the previous year, enabled the people to dispense with relief works, and they did so. A similar result was experienced in the western taluks of Bellary in 1875, the year preceding the great famine. The south-west monsoon had entirely failed in three taluks, the cultivated area to the end of July amounted to only 90,000 acres against an average of 220,000 by the end of July, prices rose from an average of 39 seers in the previous year to 12 seers, and the opening of works was largely called for. The numbers who resorted to the works, however, never exceeded 652 in any taluk. In the succeeding year when a further failure of rain had deprived the people of their resources, the numbers on works in the same three taluks ran up to 13,000. Mr. Wolfe-Murray, the Collector of Cuddapah, writes :—

"In parts of the Sidhout taluk the usual test to decide whether work was really needed was applied by opening works at famine rates, but there were no candidates at the price, and the Sub-Collector Mr. Atkinson writing of a portion of the Madanapalle taluk, in which crops had been fair, states that works originally started at normal rates were deserted when famine rates were introduced."

The experience in the Ramnad zemindari in last March was of a like nature. Great suffering had been experienced owing to a terrible loss of crops and a very considerable proportion of the population, men, women and children, the young and the old, taking with them their cattle and all their belongings migrated into the adjoining district of Tanjore, where the unfailing Cauvery had given its wonted wealth of crop. The opening of relief works was thought necessary to assure a subsistence to those who had been unable to emigrate, but though works were commenced on the usual terms, none came to them. It is true that good rain fell shortly before the opening of the works and assured useful employment in cultivating the fields to all who had been previously in need, but the result was satisfactory as showing that the wage which is everywhere found to have been sufficient for the upkeep of the workers is nevertheless by no means an attractive wage, and will not be accepted save by those in absolute need.

The experience in Cuddapah was similar to that elsewhere. Mr. Atkinson, the Sub-Collector, writes in his general report on the famine :—

"The question naturally arises when any given period of scarcity is the right moment to enforce the Famine Code and open relief works. It seems to me that any hesitation in enforcing the Code is a mistake. It is the only certain means I know of to test the extent of distress.

The most experienced observers are apt to be mistaken in their estimates of the condition of the people. The Famine Code, on the other hand, affords a test of almost mathematical accuracy. I need not do more than just note how immensely such a test lightens the anxieties of district officials. At the same time the enforcing of the Famine Code, if properly carried out so far from being expensive, is a guarantee against waste of money. Thus it may be doubted, whether one-half of those who resorted to the relief works opened in Ráyachóti taluk in August 1891 would have remained there had tasks been enforced and payments made in accordance with the Code." *

42. It is of course necessary, not only in view to preventing all avoidable expenditure of the funds of the State, but also in view to restricting the consumption of the limited amount of food available in a period of famine, that the wage shall not be greater than is sufficient for its purpose, which is to maintain the labourer in health and strength, though it is of vital importance that it shall be sufficient for this purpose. The question of what is a suitable wage will be discussed in a later portion of this paper. It will be sufficient to remark here that the relief wage granted on all relief works during the recent period of distress and which is that prescribed in the Madras Famine Code for 2nd and 3rd class labourers fulfilled, in the opinion of all who have reported on the question, all the requirements of a relief wage. It was a sufficiency, but not more than a sufficiency.

43. For the reasons given above the Commissioner is of opinion that the fact that relief works carried out strictly under the provisions of the Famine Code are freely resorted to may be accepted as sure evidence that they are needed and that so long as the saving of life is to be the criterion of the profitableness of famine expenditure, all considerations, whether they have regard to the wishes of the people or to the saving of expenditure to the State, demand that the opening of relief shall be timely—shall be too early rather than late. The failure of the harvests in different districts during the past period of distress showed that the opening of relief works was desirable, and the fact that, notwithstanding the lowness of the wage, they were so largely resorted to leaves no doubt in the Commissioner's opinion that they could not have been avoided without the risk, the Commissioner would say the certainty, of grievous loss of life.

44. *Suitability and adequacy of the measures taken for the relief of distress.*—The measures taken for the relief of distress were the following :—

The opening of works.

The establishment of kitchens for the distribution of gratuitous relief in the form of cooked food.

The grant of advances for the digging of irrigation wells and for other agricultural improvements in view to giving employment on eminently useful works.

Grant of employment to weavers in their own trade.

Remissions of the Government assessment or its postponement in cases where the failure of crops was excessive.

Opening of forest reserves for grazing free or at reduced rates of charge.

The storage of hay in forest reserves for sale to cattle-owners.

45. *Works.*—There are two systems under which relief is given in the form of works. One system consists in a mere extension and multiplication of the ordinary public works in view to enlarge the field of employment, but with no modification of the normal rates of payment for work or of the system in which in normal times the labour is organized for the work which is generally the contract system. Payment in this case is made for work by the piece, but without regard to the amount earned by particular individuals or gangs, which, according to the industry of the workers, may be twice, three times or four times as much as may be necessary for the support of the workers, or may be, on the other hand, in the case of idle or incapable workers less than, in a time of famine with exceptionally high prices prevailing, would be sufficient for subsistence. Under the other system, known as the task-work system,

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* The Collector explains in a note on the margin of Mr. Atkinson's report the circumstances under which a higher rate of wages than was admissible under the Famine Code was granted in Ráyachóti at the time referred to, but Mr. Atkinson's intention was not to question the propriety of the higher rate of wage granted in Ráyachóti. It was granted at a time prior to the enforcement of the Famine Code and before the general opening of relief works had rendered the limitation of the wage a financial necessity.

payment is made to each individual worker and is limited to an amount sufficient to keep him in good health, the worker being required to perform as a task a fair day's work for a person in his physical condition; the wage is on the other hand not allowed to fall below a sum which is necessary for the labourer's subsistence.

The second system requires a considerably larger supervising staff than the first and involves regular and frequent payments, and in consequence the necessity of very frequent measurement and registration of the work actually turned out; but it ensures employment and a sufficiency to all who are willing to work at a cost to the State which is as closely as possible proportioned to the extent of distress. An extension of ordinary contract works has great advantages as enlarging the field of employment, but offers no test of the extent of distress similar to that afforded by task-work on a famine wage, and affords no certainty that all in need are obtaining employment. A contractor cannot be expected to, and will not, give employment to inefficient workers, however needy they may be.

In a time of severe distress when famine is driving large numbers of unskilled labourers to seek employment, the opening of large works managed on the task-work system will be found to be a necessity. So much experience has been gained in recent famines in the organization of these works and in the best system of controlling and managing them that given a reasonable supervising staff, but little more difficulty exists in carrying them out than is experienced in ordinary contract work.

46. The reports of the District officers and those of the Local Fund Engineers, which are appended to this report, show that excellent work can be obtained from labour so organized, and that on a properly managed work there is no great difficulty in determining the task of a gang and in deciding with accuracy the extent to which the task has been performed. Task-works may be made, and the Commissioner is satisfied were made throughout the recent period of distress, very strict and, where necessary, very severe tests of the necessities of those resorting to them.

47. *Works most suited for famine relief.*—The works on which famine labour was employed during the past famine were—

(1) Minor irrigation works.
(2) Large irrigation works.
(3) Roads.
(4) Fencing of forest reserves.
(5) Removal of prickly-pear.

48. *Minor irrigation works.*—In districts, such as North Arcot, South Arcot, and Chingleput, where minor irrigation works are numerous, much useful employment can be given in the early stages of a period of distress in putting these useful works into thorough order. Most useful work is afforded and afforded near the homes of the people, and the extent to which the works are resorted to will form a good test of the gravity of the situation, more especially if the rates for earthwork are reduced somewhat below the normal rates. Time will also be afforded for the opening, if necessary, of large central works. Minor irrigation works however are so scattered and so numerous that it is difficult without a very large establishment to properly supervise them, or to ensure that those only who are in need of employment are taken on to the works and that none of the really needy are excluded. They cannot, as a rule, owing to their smallness and their scattered nature, be managed as task works, but the contracts for their execution may be advantageously given to the heads of the villages in which the tanks are situated, the rates for each description of work being reduced to an amount which will tend to ensure its being taken up only by the most needy.

49. *Large irrigation works.*—No more useful employment can be found for famine labour than the repair of the large existing irrigation works or the construction of new ones in suitable localities. On these large works whether tanks or channels, the work to be performed will in most cases be presumably sufficient to give employment to such numbers as will warrant the employment of a suitable staff to admit of the

work being carried out on the task-work system. Much of the work can in most cases be performed by unskilled labour, and as the repair of the irrigation works is one which devolves on Government quite apart from the existence of famine, it is at most a necessary expenditure anticipated.

An objection to the employment of famine labour on large tanks is that, though it may be possible to employ large numbers on a particular work, this cannot be done without considerable crowding and with the consequent risk of the outbreak of epidemics. This great risk was exemplified in many cases in the great famine, and also in the last famine in Kurnool, where work was brought to a standstill in more than one instance on a particular tank consequent on the outbreak of cholera due apparently to overcrowding.

50. *Roads.*—No work more fitted for employing famine labour can be found than the construction of a new road or the storage of metal and gravel along the side of an existing road. The nature of the work is easily learned, very large numbers can be employed without overcrowding since they can be spread over as many miles as may be necessary,* and the concentration of labour admits of its easy inspection and supervision by the superior officers—a supervision and inspection absolutely necessary in the case of famine labour which is dependent for existence on the punctual and honest payment of the small wage which alone it is permitted to earn. The ease with which large numbers were entertained and employed on roads is amply testified to by the Collectors and is indeed beyond question.

51. A very excellent manual of rules for the management of labourers on relief works, so far as regards their division into gangs, the preparation of nominal rolls, the fixing of the task of the gangs, the stacking in heaps of prescribed dimensions of the metal collected or broken, or of the gravel dug, the measurement and record of the work of each gang, the mode of calculation of pay earned, the number of gangs to be paid daily, the different forms to be used, &c., was drawn up by Mr. G. Stokes, the Collector of Salem, and was amplified and enlarged from the results of later experience by Mr. R. Sewell, the Collector of Bellary. The instructions will be revised and brought up to date, and with the forms prescribed will be printed as an appendix to the Famine Code. The instructions were found suitable in all districts, where they were worked, whether by Tahsildars, by Revenue Inspectors, by Public Works officers or by Local Fund Engineers, and their adoption on all road works opened as famine relief works should be made compulsory. Experience shows that work on roads will have to be more and more resorted to to give employment to famine labour even if the work should be only useful as affording a test of the necessity for relief. In large tracts of the Ceded Districts, of Kurnool and of North Nellore—tracts which are specially liable to famine—road work is almost the only work on which labour can be employed.

52. Dr. Macleane, the Collector of Nellore, would prefer irrigation works to road works, and makes the following remark in paragraph 158 of his report:—

"Roads form no doubt excellent relief works, but I have not observed that the drawbacks arising from their itinerating character have been generally taken into account. When there are large numbers engaged on a road work, the work must shift its locality more or less rapidly, for it soon exhausts itself, and when thus shifted it has a tendency to show great fluctuations in numbers according as it is near to or far from any populous centre. Except possibly at the height of the late drought and hot season, it is scarcely too much to say that the executive officer in charge of even a major tasked work had it in his power to about double his numbers or about empty the work by moving the work 10 miles this way or that way. For this reason I kept the detailed allocation of the road works very rigidly in my own hands and endeavoured so to maintain some continuity of action; but for all that it was impossible to avoid a certain capriciousness from this cause. In reading the statistics of labourers on works, this factor has to be considered as much as that of the abstract demand for work due to season. On account of the above drawback, I on the whole prefer for relief a large irrigation work which never shifts and which more fairly gauges the abstract demand."

* It was found possible on the road works without overcrowding to employ two gangs consisting of 100 labourers each—men, women and children—in each furlong, or 1,600 labourers along a mile of road. A supervisor with a staff of three head mastries and 12 sub-mastries, men who were required to know nothing more than how to measure up heaps of material and record measurements, had no difficulty in supervising 50 gangs or 5,000 labourers, and two paymasters paying daily were able to pay each gang three times a week.

Dr. Maclean's remarks seem based to some extent on a misapprehension. That work should be as near as possible stationary is doubtless desirable, but the completion of any given five miles of road, or of the mere collection and stacking of gravel or metal for its repair would not give less employment probably than would be involved in the repairs of any irrigation work, and there is no reason why labour should be moved from a section of road before it is completed than it would be from an irrigation work. It is unintelligible that an officer could be allowed to remove gangs from a tract where employment was in great demand to a tract where it was in less demand, unless and until all work had been completed in the former tract.

53. Where the large numbers needing employment at the cost of the State render it necessary that a famine wage shall be introduced, it is essential that works shall be carried out only in those spots where proper supervision can be guaranteed, and that for this purpose the labour shall be concentrated to the greatest possible extent consistent with health. No work admits of this concentration more thoroughly than does road work. The desirability of bringing work as near as possible to the homes of the labourers is great, and all possible endeavour should be made to carry out this object in reason, but unless regular supervision and regular payment can be guaranteed on numerous small and scattered works, and the difficulty of ensuring this is one which cannot be lightly faced, the Commissioner has no doubt whatever that the interests of the labourer are better consulted by bringing him to a central work where effective supervision can be enforced.

54. *Fencing Forest Reserves and the removal of Prickly-pear.*—Both these works were undertaken during the past period of distress. They are useful works, but the latter does not give employment to large numbers, and though considerable numbers may be employed on the fencing of a particular forest reserve, the numbers must be very greatly scattered or the work will be too quickly completed. In Cuddapah forest fencing was found by the Sub-Collector and Tahsildar to be—

Paragraph 39 of his report on the famine.

"Not a very satisfactory method of giving relief. An excess of women and children is much more difficult of proper accommodation than on roads. The severity of the work varies immensely. At times when the forest boundary passes over large expanses of rock far from villages, from water and even shade, the task in the hot weather is almost insupportable. The coolies are spread over very large distances rendering supervision especially difficult."

The Sub-Collector remarks that "in the end the fencing is only of doubtful utility," but to this the Commissioner is not prepared to assent. A very excellent wall was erected round a forest reserve at Kalyandrug in the adjoining district of Anantapur which should be very useful, and there is no good reason why a wall erected by famine labour should not be a good and useful one. On the whole, however, the Commissioner considers that for the reasons given above forest fencing cannot with advantage be undertaken as a famine work, unless it is desired to give work to villages in the vicinity of the forest and no more suitable work can be found. Forests are, as a rule, situated in remote and thinly-peopled tracts, whereas a famine work is required where it will be within easy reach of large numbers. Scattered works as already stated can seldom be properly supervised.

55. *Gratuitous relief.*—The smallness of the numbers seeking gratuitous relief as compared with the numbers seeking employment has been already referred to and will be seen in the following statement, which compares the numbers on works and on gratuitous relief respectively in the great famine, in the famine in Ganjám in 1888–89, and during the recent period of distress :—

Months.	1854.	1866–67.		Great Famine of 1876–78.		Ganjám Famine of 1889.		Famine of 1891–92.	
	Numbers on works.	Numbers on works.	Numbers on gratuitous relief.	Numbers on works.	Numbers on gratuitous relief.	Numbers on works.	Numbers on gratuitous relief.	Numbers on works.	Numbers on gratuitous relief.
	In 1854.	1866.		1876.		In 1889.		1891.	
January ..	8,766	..	..	..	..	3,855	147	..	..
February ..	16,017	..	584	..	..	13,080	71	1,083	..
March	22,279	..	737	..	..	15,515	169	6,704	26
April	48,299	150	1,547	..	..	13,710	694	10,743	760
May	77,862	425	2,535	..	..	16,775	2,365	16,123	1,224
June	93,092	783	5,647	..	..	18,572	14,741	18,342	1,563
July	97,554	1,572	21,367	1,000	..	13,691	63,760	18,968	2,334
August	77,768	6,529	82,945	5,000	..	11,402	73,428	27,503	4,753
September ..	65,869	13,999	93,053	15,000	..	14,595	51,534	36,679	6,960
October	47,115	16,552	100,359	131,000	5,000	11,172	14,594	41,008	6,350
November ..	..	18,268	79,729	386,000	20,000	4,421	..	25,950	4,123
December ..	..	25,614	56,587	926,000	60,000	..	..	21,062	2,364
		1867.		1877.				1892.	
January ..	..	33,019	27,620	997,481	84,897	..	..	28,661	1,321
February ..	..	28,890	14,049	807,128	60,908	..	..	32,671	1,233
March	..	21,435	6,951	641,937	101,453	..	..	43,077	985
April	..	8,828	4,656	678,289	301,696	..	..	57,584	916
May	..	5,393	3,913	722,020	375,845	..	..	74,906	1,071
June	..	968	..	808,482	491,949	..	..	88,681	1,094
July	..	..	..	867,996	713,909	..	..	56,263	873
August	..	..	..	919,712	1,131,216	..	..	22,042	548
September ..	..	..	..	712,988	1,555,160	..	..	3,327	130
October	..	..	..	503,122	1,207,611	..	..	..	..
November ..	..	..	..	309,547	572,713	..	..	..	..
December ..	..	..	..	212,002	305,811	..	..	..	..
				1878.					
January ..	..	..	..	153,536	206,304	..	..	..	..
February ..	..	..	..	141,307	154,207	..	..	..	..
March	..	..	..	123,094	119,653	..	..	..	..
April	..	..	..	108,098	94,597	..	..	..	..
May	..	..	..	123,023	86,566	..	..	..	..
June	..	..	..	134,527	79,749	..	..	..	..
July	..	..	..	135,042	84,177	..	..	..	..
August	..	..	..	117,904	76,892	..	..	..	..
September ..	..	..	..	93,312	61,659	..	..	..	..
October	..	..	..	67,097	43,313	..	..	..	..
November ..	..	..	..	33,720	19,463	..	..	..	..
December ..	..	..	..	14,182	4,614	..	..	..	..

NOTE.—Accurate information is not available regarding the figures of 1876; the figures are given on the best information available.

The smallness of the proportion seeking gratuitous relief during the period of distress just passed as compared with that seeking employment is due in part to the comparative lightness of the pressure of distress, which enabled the well-to-do villages to help such of their poorer neighbours as were unable to go to the works, and also, when the comparison is made with the great famine, to the higher wage now granted which enabled the earner to support such of the aged and the very young of his family as were unable to work. The smallness of the numbers was also due very largely to the disinclination of the people to accept gratuitous relief in the only shape in which it was granted, in the form that is to say of cooked food given in a public kitchen. There is no reason to suppose that serious suffering was caused during the period of distress just passed by the restriction of gratuitous relief to those who were willing to accept cooked food, for a very considerable portion of a munificent donation made by the Maharajah Holkar, which was distributed among District officers for grants to poor caste people who were debarred by caste scruples from entering kitchens, remained unutilised at the end of the famine, and it is beyond doubt that the enforcement of the restriction saved considerable expenditure which would otherwise have been incurred, but which results show was not necessary. The enforcement of the restriction however in circumstances similar to those of the great famine would have resulted in purely gratuitous humiliation to thousands whose distress was undoubted.

56. The indisposition of the people in Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Nellore, Coimbatore and Salem to resort to kitchens is in contrast to the readiness of those in North Arcot and Chingleput to avail themselves of this form of relief. Doubtless the pressure on the lowest classes in the two last-named districts must have been more severe than in the former, for the experience of the great famine showed that very large numbers in the former districts were willing to accept this form of relief when driven to it by their inability to earn wages on the works, the numbers in camps in which cooked food was issued in each of the districts named having averaged monthly during 1877 the figures given in the margin. The following remarks are made by District and Divisional officers in regard to the general dislike to kitchens evinced by the people, though the records of the great famine of 1876–78 show that in a time of extreme distress all these prejudices will yield to necessity.

Bellary	25,000
Cuddapah	8,500
Kurnool	11,600
Nellore	20,000
Coimbatore	70,000
Salem	44,000

57. Mr. E. A. Smith, Deputy Collector in charge of the Tiruchengódu taluk, Salem district, writes :—

"The people fed at the kitchen were chiefly chucklers and pariahs. Very few caste people resorted to the kitchen as they consider it a disgrace to be fed at the kitchen. In a few cases parents had to be compelled to send their children who were in bad condition to the kitchen, but they soon disappeared with the children."

58. Mr. Pinto, the Deputy Collector in charge of the Tiruvallúr taluk in Chingleput, states :—

"The object of my inspections in the villages was to search out real distress in order to apply the necessary remedial measures without waste on the one hand or neglect on the other; two things made the arriving at a just conclusion a difficult matter. The people had (1) a cheering recollection of the money-dole of 1877 which they highly prized and (2) a horror of the relief camps of that season. They much overstated their case in the hope of getting a money-dole again and declined cooked food in relief kitchens owing to the repulsive recollections of the relief camps of 1877. The one induced a belief in great distress; the other negatived the same. It was necessary, therefore, to steer a safe middle course in drawing conclusions from such facts and check every statement with other facts or events before accepting them. Every man or woman of and above middle age had some melancholy story to tell of the disease and death suffered in the relief camps of 1877. Their disinclination had deepened into prejudice and even superstition. The name of the relief camp had to be altered from Kanjitotti into Annachattram to make it less shocking. The ration had to be served in the shape of a liquid meal in the morning and solid in the evening instead of solid both times. Chillies had to be reduced and salt had to be increased. The result was that no disease broke out nor deaths occurred in our relief kitchens which in time became unobjectionable and even popular to such a degree that admissions had to be refused with great difficulty. Caste people held back as long as possible and would not come to the kitchen till they had exhausted all other means which were comparatively more numerous to them than to the non-castes.

"Really destitute people had at their command various makeshifts which they tried before coming on Government relief; they at first fell to the seeds of mavaragu, a weed that grew abundantly over shavi. It generally always exists, but is removed when the crop is worth weeding. When the crop withered the weed was left alone; it flowered and seeded affording gratuitous food to the destitute. The next resort was to various other seeds of grass: ari vrathan, mattanka, narival and kudraikolumbu. Another resource was the ant-holes which were invaded for the sake of the grain and grass seeds stored by the ants therein. Later on the bamboo seeded and afforded food to some destitute people. The flower of iluppai, the seed of the korakkapalle, the fruit of the prickly-pear,—all came in aid of the poor, each in its turn.

"People not accustomed to hard labour usually resorted, therefore, to every expedient possible in preference to labour on a relief work, and if they happened to lose their physique before they took to work, they became fit for gratuitous food. Irulars and Enadies and some Pariahs are generally of this class and they formed a respectable proportion of our kitchen population."

59. Regarding the Cuddapah sub-division, Mr. Atkinson writes :—

"Gratuitous relief was very sparingly given, only in the Ráyachóti kitchen during part of August, September and October 1891 and the Váyalpád kitchen during part of May, June and July 1892. A few gosha females and children were also relieved in Rayachóti and Gurrumkonda from funds provided by His Highness the Maharajah Holkar. No kitchens were opened on the works. Mr. Foord made an experiment and found that there was no demand for such an institution. On each of the larger works there was a small number of individuals incapacitated either by old age, lameness, deformity, blindness or the like from turning out a fair task. Such persons were entered in the gangs, were given some light or suitable work, and in calculating the task of the gang were not taken into account. This system appeared to give satisfaction to

the individuals themselves, and certainly saved the expense and the worry of a kitchen. The children never seemed to be in want of gratuitous relief and were supported by their relatives. Their condition never gave cause for anxiety."

60. Regarding the Bellary district, the Deputy Collector writes:—

"One children's kitchen was opened on the Adóni-Nagaladinna road work on the 7th March 1892 and it was closed on the 2nd August last with the work itself. The total amount spent in connection with it was Rs. 235–2–2, and the average attendance at it was about 15. Similarly a children's kitchen was opened on the 1st March last on the Alúr-Guntakal road work and it was closed on the 31st August last. The amount spent in its connection was Rs. 436–3–9 and the average attendance at it was about 20. It was noticed that, as a general rule, the coolies here did not like to send in their children to the kitchens, even although the kitchens were quite close to the place where their gangs were working, and this disinclination seems to my mind to be due to a superstitious idea that they seemed to have had that it is a very mean thing even for the poorest and the lowest class person to say that his or her child has gone to the "గంజిదొడ్డి" as they call it.

61. M.R.Ry. Venkata Ram Dass Naidu, Deputy Collector in charge of the Cumbum and Markapur táluks of Kurnool, writes:—

"In this division all the classes that were really affected could have gone to the kitchens if they had chosen to do so. Perhaps Muhammadan gosha women should be treated as an exception, and in their case special arrangements were made. Among the classes that resorted to the kitchens are—

1. Kapus.
2. Boyas.
3. Shepherds.
4. Barbers.
5. Washermen.
6. Weavers.
7. Potters.
8. Muhammadans.
9. Pariahs.
10. Chucklers.
11. Christians.

"Six kitchens were opened, the number relieved varying from 199 in December 1891 to 457 in April and to 233 in September.

"The number would have been much larger but for the *superstition* with some parents that children fed in kitchens would not live long. Probably the mortality in the kitchens in the great famine of 1876–78 gave rise to this false fear. I know of many instances in which mothers wept and sobbed when pressed to send their badly-looking children to the kitchen.

"Two of these kitchens were stationary kitchens, while the other four were work kitchens and were moved from place to place as the work to which they were attached progressed to suit the convenience of the non-working children fed therein."

62. *Advances for Land Improvements.*—Among the most important of the measures adopted for the relief of distress was the grant of advances to land-owners for the improvement of their lands, the advances being utilised for the most part in the construction of wells. The advantage of giving employment to labour on works of this nature at a cost to be borne by the owners of the lands benefitted instead of by the State is unquestionable if the improvements to be effected are really remunerative and if measures are taken to ensure that the advances are honestly spent on the works for which they are taken.

Of the benefit derived from wells in a country like the Presidency of Madras, the greater part of which is subject to frequent droughts, many of them resulting in actual famine, no one who is familiar with the country can have any possibility of doubt. In an ordinary year the possession of a well means to the owner a crop or it may be a succession of crops throughout the year of a value far in excess of that raised by his neighbours in adjoining lands where no well is. In a season of drought it means to the great majority of well owners, for few wells dry up in the first season of failure, a good crop when grain is at famine prices, with food for himself and his family and ample fodder for his cattle, while the lands of his neighbours which have no wells are yielding nothing or next to nothing, and the family of his neighbour is perhaps driven to resort to distant relief works, and their cattle are dying or being kept alive at a great cost by grass brought from distant jungles. If any proof were needed of the advantage of wells it would be found in the eagerness with which the ryots have come forward to take advances for constructing them, and the innumerable wells which they are digging all over the country.

63. At an early stage of the period of distress the special well rules under which advances at specially favorable rates were admissible in the districts of Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool and Cuddapah were extended by Government to Ganjám, North Arcot, Coimbatore and Tinnevelly, and in August 1891 to the rest of the Presidency,

and the earnest endeavours of Government to bring home to the people the advantages which the rules held out were largely furthered by the personal exertions of His Excellency the Governor, whose encouragement to all the officers in the distressed tracts—and few of the distressed tracts were not visited by him—to persevere in the good work of increasing the number of wells has been the cause of so much of the success which has been achieved.

64. The annexed statement shows the sums disbursed in the affected districts under the Land Improvements Loans Act for the construction of wells or for other land improvements during the period of distress from January 1891 to September 1892:—

District.	Commencement of period during which loans referred to were granted.	Land improvement loans.									
		For the repair or construction of wells.						For other land improvements.			
		Granted.		Disbursed.		Wells.		Granted.		Disbursed.	
		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Completed.	Under construction or repair.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	1891.		RS.		RS.				RS.		RS.
Coimbatore.	1st January..	6,201	12,07,230	5,122	7,89,292	545	4,808	326	74,079	314	66,853
Salem ..	1st April ..	1,663	1,82,510	1,563	1,62,333	434	1,231	19	5,155	19	4,905
North Arcot.	1st January.	4,768	6,24,117	4,300	4,16,473	1,097	2,727	55	8,795	54	8,545
Chingleput..	1st January.	5,449	7,27,896	4,677	4,66,708	2,882	1,605	32	3,327	27	2,625
Nellore ..	1st January.	551	85,938	483	63,878	95	248	..	..	..	..
Cuddapah ..	1st January.	6,118	9,12,505	5,128	5,26,803	621	3,435	553	77,230	493	69,631
Anantapur ..	1st October.	525	97,345	431	65,345	28	330	144	28,820	144	28,820
Bellary ..	1st October.	842	1,89,109	816	1,32,275	33	700	708	97,111	690	93,231
Kurnool ..	1st October.	1,266	3,25,847	1,202	1,98,764	18	1,044	54	7,395	54	4,870

Out of the sums advanced for wells it will be seen that, up to the end of September 1892, 5,753 wells had been completed and 16,128 were under construction, many of them having since been completed. Of the sums advanced for "other land improvements" the greater portion of that advanced in Anantapur and Bellary was for the removal of "nuth" grass, a grass (*Ischæmum pilosum*) with a deep, wiry and 'widely' spreading root. In Cuddapah the expenditure was largely for levelling and for reclamation of lands, and in Coimbatore for removing prickly-pear, levelling and embanking lands.

65. It is almost inevitable that in districts where, to meet the needs of a period of severe distress, loans have been issued on an exceptionally large scale there should be instances where the loans have been fraudulently misapplied. Now that the period of exceptional pressure on all the district establishments has been relaxed, these cases will be inquired into and loans which have been misapplied will be summarily recovered. In the great majority of instances, however, the Commissioner is satisfied that the advances have been honestly utilized to the great advantage of the borrower and of the State. In this connection Mr. Sturrock, the Collector of Coimbatore, than whom no officer has laboured more earnestly to give his district the full benefits to be derived from the liberal loan rules, reports as follows:—

"The wells in this district are usually large and sometimes very large pits sunk in solid rock frequently to a very great depth. Revetments are ordinarily only required for a few feet before the rock is reached, and when these are kept in order, the well is practically a permanent improvement. The Head Assistant Collector, who has been in the district for several years and has inspected a large number of works, writes—

"A large proportion of the works reported by Revenue Inspectors as completed are check-inspected by Tahsildars and Divisional-officers, and although there are no doubt many cases in which borrowers do succeed in securing a portion of the loan for other purposes, there are just as many in which the borrower completes from his own funds a work which he would not have

begun without a loan. The high value of well land in this district makes it a matter of little difficulty to obtain good security for all the loans advanced, and although the care which has been taken in the matter during the period under report can only be practically tested in the course of years yet to run, a certain amount of experience has already been obtained in this district since 1887, and no case of insufficient security has yet come to notice, while it is only in rare cases that it has been necessary to enforce punctuality of payment of instalments by the issue of coercive process other than a mere formal notice of demand.

"The money advanced has been very well spent; no doubt a few rupees here and there are misapplied, but practically every borrower sinks a new well or repairs an old one, and materially improves the value of his property.

"The Sub-Collector, who has been but a few months in the district, writes—

". . . the generosity of Government has often been abused; several instances have lately come to my notice in which it is evident that persons have looked on the special well rules as a new way of paying old debts or of turning an honest penny by lending out at the usual exorbitant interest money which was obtained from Government at 3 per cent. . . . Even in cases where work has been done, the ryots are often able to pocket a large proportion of the principal.

"After having inspected more than fifty wells and reviewed numerous inspection reports, I have no hesitation in saying that the Head Assistant Collector's remarks represent the normal state of things, while the Sub-Collector's deal with those more or less exceptional cases which occur at the outset in every locality as the rules are brought into practical working, but become more and more rare as experience is gained and rapidly diminish when a Tahsildar takes an active and intelligent interest in the matter and insists on his subordinates doing the same. In reviewing the Revenue Inspectors' reports on wells inspected by them the following results were found during the last five months of the period under report:—

	Wells inspected in the month.	Percentage found not begun or left unfinished.
"May	510	·18
"June	635	·17
"July	891	·15
"August	1,131	·13
"September	1,189	·09

"This is a continuous record of improvement, and I invariably found that the unsatisfactory taluks were either those in which a large number of loans had been disbursed shortly before inspection, or those in which the Tahsildars had had to be found fault with for want of interest in the work."

66. Mr. Thomson, the Collector of Chingleput, states—

"The loans were obtained by over 4,600 families, which means assistance to about 25,000 persons besides the employment of work-people. As a general rule, the borrowers, as far as possible, employ their own materials and household labour for the purpose of burning bricks and doing the unskilled part of the work, appropriating its value for their own relief.

"The frequent and persistent inspections that have been made have prevented any large proportion of the sums advanced from being misapplied. Occasionally, when the expenditure was apart from the legitimate purpose, the loans relieved distress in some other shape, namely, some five borrowers employed their loan in business, the profits of which kept them alive during the season. Loans were also taken with the object of part-going towards defraying Government revenue demands. Private debts were discharged; one grantee paid the loan into the hands of a dancing-girl and proceeded with her on a holiday trip to be set upon by robbers who eased them of their burden; another built a house; another purchased jewels for his wife; and another performed a marriage. But these cases of absolute misuse were so rare and the securities so safe that there has been no difficulty in either recovering the Government money or insisting upon the completion of the works agreed upon.

"It may be said that while repair works afforded relief to coolies and agricultural labourers, the loans benefited the poorer pattadars and land-owners who, but for this timely and substantial assistance, would have been led to the transfer of their lands by sale or mortgage, or to otherwise get themselves hopelessly involved."

67. The sums advanced under the Agriculturists' Loans Act in the affected tracts for the purchase of fodder and of cattle and seed-grain are shown below :—

District.	Period referred to.	Agricultural loans for the purchase of — Fodder. — Granted. — Number.	Fodder. — Granted. — Amount.	Fodder. — Disbursed. — Number.	Fodder. — Disbursed. — Amount.	Cattle and seed-grains. — Granted. — Number.	Cattle and seed-grains. — Granted. — Amount.	Cattle and seed-grains. — Disbursed. — Number.	Cattle and seed-grains. — Disbursed. — Amount.
			RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.
Coimbatore ..	1st January 1891 to 30th September 1892.	..	..	..	..	1,128	80,656	884	65,840
Salem	1st April 1891 to 30th September 1892.	..	..	..	..	209	10,309	209	10,309
North Arcot ..	1st January 1891 to 30th September 1892.	7	890	7	890	172	3,126	171	3,096
Chingleput ..		..	..	..	..	617	29,564	598	28,549
Nellore		1,136	95,124	1,136	95,124	245	9,346	183	6,393
Cuddapah		..	..	..	..	574	34,687	557	32,942
Anantapur	1st October 1891 to 30th September 1892.	65	2,609	65	2,609	16	1,385	15	1,325
Bellary		1,912	45,096	1,903	43,930	30	398	30	398
Kurnool		680	19,157	561	16,341	172	5,542	172	5,542

68. *Relief to weavers.*—In December 1891, it was reported that, owing to the high prices prevailing and cessation of demand for cloth, the condition of the weaving population of Salem, and especially of the lower classes of weavers working for hire, was such as to demand special measures for their relief. Some cases of migration were reported, and inquiry showed that there were about 2,600 families working seven thousand looms in Salem town and 1,000 more working two thousand looms in other parts of the district that required relief; while there was little or no inclination on the part of the weavers to resort to the ordinary relief works. The Collector, Mr. G. Stokes, proposed a system of relief under which the Government should purchase from the weavers cloths of specified kinds made by them, paying for them the quantity of material used and third-class wages for the number of days required for making each cloth, the quantity of material and the number of days required being settled beforehand. The plan was approved, but it was found subsequently to be unnecessary to put it in force for the relief of the weavers in Salem as the headmen of the weaver caste combined together to purchase the cloths made by weavers and so provided them with employment.

On the suggestion of the Collector of Ganjám it was ordered that weavers to whom advances might be made should be restricted, as far as possible, to the manufacture of articles likely to be used by Government.

69. It was found necessary at a later date to give this form of relief in the Kurnool district. In Kodumur in Pattikonda taluk, and in the villages around, some cases of actual migration were reported and relief was stated to be required. The proposals of the Collector for giving relief on the plan proposed by Mr. G. Stokes in Salem were sanctioned in May 1892, and work was commenced on the 9th June 1892 and closed at the end of August following. The largest number of looms employed was 363 and the number employed at one man, one woman and one child for each loom was 1,089. The total quantity of work turned out was 1,792 female cloths and 326 dungry cloths. Payment was made for each cloth for one man, one woman, and one child for two days; third-class wages being paid at the current price of cholum. The total amount advanced was Rs. 3,555–12–11, and the cloths made were valued locally at Rs. 3,380–8–0. The cloths were, however, taken to Kurnool for sale where they realised Rs. 1–2–0 for each woman's cloth and 7 Annas for each dungry cloth; the total amount realised being Rs. 2,158–10–0. The reason for the low price obtained was stated to be the fact that the woman's cloths were too short for ordinary use at Kurnool and the dungry cloths too narrow for use in offices. As regards the women's cloths the length seems to have been correct for the locality where the cloths were

made, and a great mistake seems to have been made by the District officers in attempting to sell them in another market where the length was unsuitable. The dungry which was of the size used for cloths by the poorer classes would also in all probability have met with a better sale locally.

70. *Recorded mortality in the affected districts as compared with that of a normal year.*—In the absence of an actual census of the population of the distressed districts, the only means of gauging the loss of population, if any, caused by a period of famine or of severe distress, is by a comparison of the birth and death statistics maintained in each village with those of a normal year. No great degree of accuracy is claimed for those statistics, and indeed the censuses taken from time to time show that they are largely inaccurate. The inaccuracies are due to carelessness on the part of the lowly paid agency by which the statistics are prepared, and result in normal years in the omission from the register of large numbers of births and deaths which undoubtedly occur. An increase in the number of reported deaths may always be expected in a time of famine, when as has been often pointed out, more attention is paid to registration than in ordinary years, and no certain inference that scarcity and high prices are increasing the mortality can be drawn from the reported figures unless they show a death-rate undoubtedly in excess of that to be expected in ordinary times. Much improvement is being effected from year to year in the registration of vital statistics, but the matter is one of extreme importance, for it is very largely on these returns that Government must rely in judging from month to month of the sufficiency or otherwise of the measures adopted for the relief of distress in the seasons of famine which experience shows will recur at not infrequent intervals in some portion of the Presidency. The subjoined statement shows the deaths reported in each month of the years 1891 and 1892 in each of the distressed districts compared with the average number of deaths reported monthly during the five years ending December 1890 which is shown as "normal :—"

Months.	Coimbatore.			Salem.			North Arcot.		
	Normal.	1891.	1892.	Normal.	1891.	1892.	Normal.	1891.	1892.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
January ..	2,945	3,117	4,531	3,665	3,562	5,063	4,465	4,518	5,770
February ..	2,476	2,835	2,939	2,806	2,757	2,974	3,235	3,795	3,597
March	2,343	2,648	3,229	2,540	2,566	2,802	2,973	2,797	3,104
April	2,276	3,047	3,315	2,549	2,672	2,532	2,621	2,675	2,872
May	2,533	2,899	3,167	3,152	2,759	2,981	3,073	2,697	3,364
June	2,500	2,487	2,716	2,627	2,566	2,784	2,561	2,938	3,104
July	2,547	3,088	2,894	2,722	2,967	2,802	2,834	3,979	2,923
August	2,453	3,702	2,777	2,709	3,164	2,867	3,092	4,527	3,039
September ..	2,357	3,514	2,582	2,673	2,679	2,966	3,138	3,753	3,103
October	2,495	3,423	2,723	2,837	3,587	2,810	3,214	3,863	3,110
November ..	2,673	5,578	2,585	3,270	5,057	2,807	3,381	5,244	3,198
December ..	3,515	6,814	3,060	3,956	6,134	3,000	4,242	7,148	3,178
Total ..	31,113	43,152	36,518	35,506	40,470	36,388	38,829	47,934	40,362

Months.	Chingleput.			Nellore.			Cuddapah.		
	Normal.	1891.	1892.	Normal.	1891.	1892.	Normal.	1891.	1892.
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
January ..	2,633	2,071	4,173	1,859	1,922	2,658	2,369	2,037	2,332
February ..	2,047	1,739	2,542	1,446	1,686	2,672	1,865	1,733	1,780
March	1,873	1,711	1,900	1,561	1,596	2,635	1,995	1,487	2,027
April	1,731	1,619	1,465	1,360	1,712	2,316	2,103	1,548	2,511
May	1,935	1,661	2,025	1,647	1,765	2,271	2,102	1,663	2,141
June	1,835	2,031	1,663	1,516	2,175	1,968	1,594	1,811	1,750
July	2,019	2,224	1,720	1,605	1,995	2,295	1,902	3,178	2,860
August	2,177	2,844	2,177	1,719	2,719	3,291	2,042	3,788	3,517
September ..	2,116	3,587	2,350	1,746	2,446	2,130	2,242	2,913	3,159
October	2,103	3,343	2,190	1,566	2,244	2,150	2,339	2,462	2,716
November ..	2,204	4,247	2,047	1,598	2,418	2,434	2,428	3,211	2,998
December ..	2,500	5,055	2,137	1,767	2,360	2,432	2,628	2,707	2,870
Total ..	25,173	32,132	26,389	19,390	25,038	29,252	25,609	28,538	30,661

Months.	Anantapur.			Bellary.			Kurnool.		
	Normal.	1891.	1892.	Normal.	1891.	1892.	Normal.	1891.	1892.
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
January ..	1,123	1,307	874	1,430	1,638	1,365	1,631	1,677	1,576
February ..	926	1,146	819	1,274	1,403	1,376	1,445	1,295	1,429
March	1,119	1,043	1,574	1,565	1,398	2,900	1,583	1,424	2,551
April	1,290	1,054	1,336	1,884	1,604	2,378	1,777	1,739	2,360
May	1,303	1,261	986	1,714	1,865	1,594	720	1,919	2,094
June	1,210	1,962	912	1,817	2,012	1,895	1,430	1,699	1,713
July	1,291	2,838	1,419	1,905	2,846	2,730	1,604	2,633	3,414
August	1,250	2,624	1,803	1,763	3,029	3,086	1,669	3,359	4,097
September ..	1,154	1,401	1,425	1,579	2,457	2,311	1,666	1,977	2,630
October	1,198	1,104	1,114	1,630	1,885	1,799	1,639	1,602	2,106
November ..	1,219	886	1,032	1,506	1,697	1,759	1,730	1,554	2,394
December ..	1,254	934	1,133	1,560	1,566	1,786	1,892	1,503	2,337
Total ..	14,337	17,560	14,427	19,627	23,400	24,979	19,786	22,381	28,701

71. In the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, North Arcot, Chingleput and Nellore, in portions of which districts much distress was experienced in the year 1891, the total deaths reported for 1891 were 188,726 as compared with 150,011, the average deaths reported during the five years ending December 1890, an increase of 38,715, or 25·8 per cent. The death-rate, however, was not high, being in no district more than 28·3 per mille of the population as shown in the margin. In the six districts in which severe distress was felt in 1892, namely, Salem, Nellore, Cuddapah, Anantapur, Bellary and Kurnool, the deaths reported during the year were 164,408 as compared with 134,255, the average of the five years ending December 1890, showing an increase of 30,153 or 22·5 per cent. The deaths reported in the same districts during 1876, though distress had commenced to be felt severely only towards the end of that year, were 194,257, of which no less than 59,745 were due to cholera.

Districts.	Death-rate reported per mille in 1891.
Coimbatore	21·5
Salem	20·6
North Arcot	22·0
Chingleput	28·3
Nellore	17·1

72. Much of the excess mortality in the past two years was due to cholera, but though cholera is an almost invariable accompaniment of famine, it was by no means confined to the distressed districts and was indeed more severely felt during 1892 in the Gódávari district than in any other district of the Presidency, though the Gódávari district, half of which is watered by the river of the same name, had excellent harvests during the year, and at no time suffered from agricultural distress. The cholera

Districts.	Deaths from cholera.		
	1891.	1892.	Average of five years ending 1890.
Coimbatore	8,063	2,007	1,730
Salem	5,256	3,543	1,454
North Arcot ..	6,737	3,107	2,122
Chingleput	4,702	1,913	832
Nellore	1,216	7,151	823
Cuddapah	6,231	3,268	1,544
Anantapur	4,282	719	435
Bellary	2,542	1,741	933
Kurnool	3,147	4,365	195

mortality in the distressed districts in 1891 and 1892 is shown in the margin compared with the average cholera mortality in the same districts during the five years ending 1890. In the districts which suffered in 1891, the cholera mortality during that year was 25,974 compared with the five years' average of 6,961. In the districts of Salem, Nellore, Cuddapah, Anantapur, Bellary and Kurnool, which suffered in 1892, the cholera mortality in that year was 20,787 compared with the five years' average of 5,384. The cholera mortality of the Presidency as a whole was in 1891 98,733 and 79,033 in 1892 as compared with 42,152, the average for the Presidency during the five years ending 1890. In no distressed district was the cholera mortality comparable in any way to that which prevailed in Ganjam in 1889 and carried off 14,042.

73. Considering the general prevalence of cholera, the health and freedom from disease of the labourers on works and of the destitute poor and the children fed in kitchens was exceptionally good. The reports from Chingleput show that not a single death occurred in the kitchens, and it is believed that similar immunity was experienced in the North Arcot district as well as in Salem, Bellary, Anantapur and Nellore. As regards the affected tracts in Kurnool, the Deputy Collector writes—

"The general health of the inmates of all the kitchens was on the whole very good. In the Cumbum division the Special Hospital Assistants visited each kitchen twice a week. In the Markapur kitchen cholera broke out in the latter part of April 1892, but fortunately there were not many deaths."

74. Regarding the condition of those on works, there is similar testimony to their general good health, though at certain periods of the distress there was a deterioration in condition due to local causes which were rectified as soon as discovered, one important cause of a deterioration in condition being the institution of the minimum wage on certain works in Kurnool which resulted in a rapid falling off both in work and in earnings, the labourers contenting themselves with the minimum wage for doing next to nothing instead of exerting themselves to earn a better wage by better work. The best way found in this case to improve the condition of the labourers was to abolish the minimum wage.

In regard to the condition of workers in Cuddapah, Mr. Wolfe-Murray says—

"I may say that no deaths occurred from starvation owing mainly to matters being dealt with in good time. Far different was my experience during the tail of last famine in Vizagapatam in 1878, when I had several small famine camps under my charge for a few months, and where the verandahs used to be speckled with the dead regularly every morning."

And Mr. Atkinson, the Sub-Collector, writes—

"The health of the famine labourers was invariably good. Two medical subordinates were during the months from February to July attached to the works; but, as it fortunately turned out, their posts were mere sinecures. Beyond a few simple cases of fever, dysentery and bowel-complaints, sore-eyes and accidents, there were never any patients. During the whole course of the famine operations only 3 deaths were reported among the coolies—one, that of a woman who was accidently knocked down by a stone roller, receiving such injuries as resulted in death; another of a little child who fell into a well and was drowned; and the third of a man who was certified to have died of indigestion.

"This immunity from sickness and mortality is the more remarkable because the season was in other parts of the sub-division decidedly unhealthy. There was a good deal of sporadic cholera, which in Pilér became severely epidemic at the end of May. In the Váyalpád taluk and parts of Ráyachóti there was unusually severe fever, upon which I have reported in my letter, Dis. No. 2902, dated 8th July 1892."

In the letter referred to Mr. Atkinson gave very satisfactory reasons to show that the exceptionally severe fever was not due to privation.

As regards the Bellary labourers, Mr. Sewell, the Collector, states—

"To secure certain information regarding the health of the coolies and to ascertain whether they were falling off in strength under the famine wage, I instituted a system of selected families. In every gang on every work two or three typical families were chosen and their condition reported on periodically by the inspecting officers.

"Medical officers were also attached to large works and, in the case of others, arrangement were made for their occasional inspection. The District Medical officer himself took a lively interest in the matter, frequently inspected the works and communicated to me his remarks and suggestions. There was no epidemic or outbreak of disease of any kind, though at one time the numbers on works were close on twenty thousand."

M.R.Ry. Ram Dass Naidu, the Deputy Collector in charge of the Cumbum and Markapur taluks of Kurnool, writes —

"The coolies on the works kept excellent health except in the month of February, when, owing probably to 'inefficient supervision and excessive tasking,' there was a slight deterioration in the condition of the coolies at Dupad and Dornál. It is also believed that the introduction of 'minimum wage' at Markapur slightly demoralized the coolies there in March 1892, but they improved soon and at the time of the close of the works they looked none the worse for the distress they had undergone.

"The works were singularly free from cholera until June 1892 when gradually it spread thereto and caused slight mortality. Special arrangements were made to have the work spots swept clean, to disinfect them as often as necessary by the free burning of sulphur and tar and to segregate the labourers coming from infected villages. Four extra Hospital Assistants were at work at this time. The District Surgeon inspected the coolies twice, once in March 1892 and a second time in April 1892.

"Before leaving this subject, I must emphasise the fact that, within my knowledge, not one case of death from actual starvation occurred during the prevalence of the distress. I did not even come across any of those specimens of humanity whom we can call 'resultants of prolonged hunger.'"

75. It cannot be expected that a period of very high prices will not tell on the health and strength of the people, but the Commissioner thinks that, judging from the condition of those who came to the works, which were free to all who were willing to work, and to the kitchens which were open to those of the destitute who were unable to work, there was no mortality due to absolute want.

76. *Activity of the grain trade.*—A note on the great activity of the grain trade by Mr. Benson, Deputy Director of Agriculture, forms appendix V of this report. The table attached to paragraph 6 of the note, which shows the net results of the grain trade of the Presidency for each statistical block for the eight half-years ending with September 1892, is given below:—

District or block.	Direction.	Net results of the grain trade during the half-years ending							
		1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.	
		March.	September.	March.	September.	March.	September.	March.	September.
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Ganjam	Imports ..	1,661	4,140	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Exports ..	..	..	1,040	2,555	13,659	16,336	5,837	680
Vizagapatam	Imports ..	13,527	4,880	2,344	..	..	..	1,165	5,406
	Exports ..	..	..	..	633	1,088	1,590	..	..
Gódávari	Exports ..	25,000	21,610	25,881	27,018	23,853	21,435	14,061	13,466
Kistna	Exports ..	6,860	11,531	21,376	19,847	8,783	16,053	12,934	17,988
Ceded Districts and Kurnool ..	Imports ..	..	1,232	..	..	..	..	34,052	20,980
	Exports ..	6,629	..	4,159	5,807	10,901	16,596	..	..
Nellore	Imports ..	498	..	211	..	2,797	1,470	1,454	2,172
	Exports ..	..	998	..	578	..	..	..	..
Chingleput and North Arcot ..	Imports ..	..	..	..	..	..	7,875	18,316	5,933
	Exports ..	49,045	48,443	20,494	23,603	17,883	..	..	..
Madras	Imports ..	22,901	17,625	32,854	26,073	36,810	48,350	51,146	26,068
South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly	Exports ..	56,055	45,284	41,129	29,301	66,101	56,151	86,650	60,448
Madura and Tinnevelly	Imports ..	15,470	12,167	31,901	59,103	70,925	68,786	59,624	48,230
Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar..	Imports ..	64,775	59,728	87,204	72,180	154,048	104,222	115,729	60,019
South Canara	Exports ..	23,294	6,670	19,624	5,862	16,280	4,641	14,641	4,089
Presidency Total ..	Imports ..	..	..	20,811	42,152	106,032	97,901	147,363	72,137
	Exports ..	48,051	34,864	..	..	..	..	..	..

It shows that for the Presidency as a whole there was during the two years ending March 1892 an enormously increased import of grain from other parts of India. In ordinary years any import of grain is more than counterbalanced by the exports, the excess of exports of grain over imports amounting in 1889–90 to 14,053 tons. In 1890–91 this net export was changed into a net import of 148,184 tons, and in 1891–92 into a net import of 245,264 tons. In addition to the imports from abroad there were of course large and abnormal movements of home-grown grain within the Presidency, the districts in which the season had been fair exporting their surplus to those where the crops had failed. The grouping of districts into railway blocks, adopted for simplifying the preparation of the trade returns, renders it difficult to gauge the effect of the recent failure of rains in particular districts, the affected districts being in many cases grouped with others that were not affected at all or affected very slightly.

77. The Ganjam district is grouped by itself. It suffered from famine in 1889 when its net imports were by sea—for it has no railways—5,801 tons. It had not sufficiently recovered in 1890 to admit of its making any large exports, but in 1891 it managed to export very nearly 30,000 tons net. It suffered again from bad seasons in 1892, and though it was not found necessary, as it was at one time feared it would be, to introduce measures of famine relief into the district, its net export of grain dropped to 6,500 tons.

78. The Ceded districts and Kurnool, which together form one group for trade statistical purposes, enjoyed a very fair season in 1890, and did not despair of a good season in 1891 till nearly half the year was over. During the two years ending September 1891, these districts exported, net, to the affected tracts of the Presidency no less than 37,500 tons. In September 1891, it began to be realised that the early rains had failed to a disastrous extent; the exporters set to work to import and, in the year ending September 1892, no less than 55,000 tons were imported.

In the Chingleput and North Arcot block, the trade returns of the five half-years between 1st October 1888 and 31st March 1891 showed a regular net export of grain ranging between 49,045 tons in the first half-year, the highest half-yearly figure in the series, to 17,883, the lowest figure. The failure of rains dealt with in the report changed this export trade into an import trade, and in the year ending March 1892, which comprised nearly the whole period of severe distress, the net import of grain was slightly over 26,000 tons. Madras, the sea-port of this block, usually draws a large portion of its supplies from inland, but from the beginning of 1891 these fell off, and towards the end of the year grain imported by sea was being sent inland from the port in considerable quantities.

79. The block made up of the Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar districts during each half-year prior to that ending in September 1890 imported on the average about 71,000 tons of grain, net; in the next six months these imports more than doubled, and, during the year ending in March 1892, the net imports amounted to 220,000 tons. A very large proportion of these imports came by sea into Malabar.

The two Southern districts, Madura and Tinnevelly, which are grouped together for statistical purposes, showed in the twelve months ending in September 1889 a net import of 27,637 tons of grain. In the next twelve months the net imports rose to 91,000 tons, and in the year following to 139,711 tons; whilst in the year ending in September 1892 the net imports were still 107,854 tons.

The remaining districts in the southern portion of the Presidency—South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly—were able, during the years 1891 and 1892, to increase their net exports largely, and much of these were sent to the neighbouring districts where the failure of crop had caused deficiency of supply. The increased net export was from 101,439 tons in 1889 and 70,430 tons in 1890 to 122,252 tons in 1891 and to 147,098 tons in 1892.

80. The very high prices which prevailed in the distressed areas in the latter part of 1891 and for the first six months of 1892, notwithstanding the activity of the grain trade, seem to show that there had been by the end of 1891 a very serious depletion of the stocks of grain in the Presidency. Had the early rains of 1892 failed over any large area in the Presidency, an enormously increased development of the grain trade would probably have been needed to prevent a general rise of prices to the level of the prices of 1876.

81. *Efforts made for the protection of cattle during the drought.*—The sufferings to which the cattle in the affected districts would be exposed during the drought from the almost complete failure of pasture, the drying up of the drinking ponds and the deficient outturn of the straw of the fading crops became evident at an early period of the distress. The drying up of the ponds could not be remedied, but the provision of water for cattle as for human beings was, as far as possible, assured by the numerous loans granted to the ryots at favorable rates for the digging of irrigation wells. Among the measures taken for the protection of cattle were the throwing open of the forest reserves to free-grazing or to grazing at favorable rates; the permission to cut grass in and remove it from the forests; the cutting and stacking of grass in the forest reserves at the expense of Government for sale to the ryots, and in certain cases the transport of hay so cut to fixed centres in the affected tracts for sale by auction. Endeavours were also widely made to induce the ryots to make use as cattle food of the prickly-pear (*Opuntia sp.*) which is obtainable in large quantities in most districts and which is not greatly affected by a want of rain; innumerable illustrated leaflets printed in the vernaculars and showing the manner in which the leaf should be prepared being distributed in the affected districts. The different measures taken are recorded in the reports of each district and are briefly noted below.

82. In the Chingleput district all the reserves on the plains were ordered to be thrown open from 10th June 1891 to the end of August to all cattle at a nominal fee of 6 pies for each buffalo and 3 pies for each bullock. Permission was also given to the ryots to cut and carry grass from the reserved forests free of charge. No statistics are available to show how far these privileges were availed of, excepting that the receipts under grazing fees during 1891–92 were only Rs. 909 against Rs. 2,337 in the previous year.

83. In North Arcot the reserves in the Wandiwash taluk were thrown open to cattle in July 1891. The concession was largely availed of by the ryots, but for want of rain there was but little pasture available in the taluk reserves. The general failure of the grasses in the portions of the Eastern Ghâts running through the Kálahasti zemindari, the other affected tract in the North Arcot district, was pointedly brought to notice by Mr. LeFanu, who wrote as follows from Kálahasti in July:—"Cattle are dying. I have seen them dead in the fields and others too weak to rise; this too in a richly wooded country where grazing is free, a fact which gives ground for reflection in reference to our forest reserves. It is a fact that these great forests of the Eastern Ghâts contain no grass." In September, the almost complete failure of pasture compelled the ryots to feed their cattle on the leaves of trees and palmyras, and permission was then accorded to them to take leaves to a very large extent from poramboke and avenue trees. This state of things continued till the season improved in October. In December 1891, when distress threatened in another part of the district not previously affected—the Punganúru zemindari—the Collector was authorized to cut and stack in the vicinity of the forest reserves such quantities of grass as might be deemed advisable for sale to ryots during the hot weather (March and April) of 1892, and in January 1892, with a view to give work to the poor in the zemindari, grass-cutting was begun in several places and $276\frac{1}{8}$ tons of hay were collected. It was found impossible to sell this grass in the early months at a reasonable price and an early improvement of the season deprived it of all value. It was therefore given away, Rs. 353 having been spent on it.

84. In Coimbatore great scarcity of fodder was experienced throughout the district in 1891, and in portions of the Bhaváni and Kollegal taluks in 1892. At an early date the Collector offered free grazing in the more remote forests, but was compelled to

decline to throw open to absolutely free grazing the forests then being grazed over by cattle for which permits had already been taken out owing to the insufficiency of the supply of grass in the forests. The cattle, however, for whom permits had been obtained, were granted a free extension for three months in the Palladam and Udamalpet taluks in 1891 and in Bhavâni in 1892. Free grass-cutting in the reserves was allowed to all graziers and some hundreds of cart-loads were thus removed.

85. In Salem the grazing of cattle and sheep (not goats) free of charge in all reserved forests during the prevalence of scarcity in the taluks of Salem, Námakkal, Tiruchengódu and Uttankarai was permitted from 20th August 1891. To the same end a notification was issued permitting villagers to cut and remove grass, free of charge from all reserves, except those already felled over, and when pasture became very scarce towards the latter part of the year 1891–92, graziers were allowed to cut small branches of trees for fodder for cattle in reserves open to grazing. Arrangements were also made to cut and stack hay by departmental labour for supply to needy ryots later on in the hot weather at cost price. Very little was, however, accomplished in this direction before the rains came in 1892. A few cart-loads were removed by the villagers in Atur, Uttankarai and Tiruppattúr, and about 46 cart-loads were cut and stored by the Forest Department in the Salem west range. No grass was available in other taluks. In May 1892, the season improved and cutting grass in the reserves departmentally was stopped.

86. In the Cuddapah district lands generally closed to grazing were opened to grazing on a moderate fee, and free grazing was permitted in one reserved forest and on unreserved lands generally. A proposal of the Collector to collect and store a certain amount of fodder grass in a few convenient places and at the same time to impress on the ryots the necessity of following the example was sanctioned in December 1891. Hay was stacked and stored at 14 depôts at a cost of Rs. 2,774, but the experiments did not prove a success. There was little demand for the hay and only a small quantity was sold realizing Rs. 478. In the Cuddapah taluk villagers were allowed to cut leaves in the jungles for fodder on payment of a reduced rate of 3 pies a head-load. Some slight success was met with in the Badvel and Sidhout taluks in introducing the use of prickly-pear as fodder. Several ryots purchased the instruments required for preparing the leaf for food, but, owing to the drought, it was stated to be difficult to find the plant with sufficient moisture in it, and the longer the drought, the more shrivelled and parched the leaf became and it was stated to have a strong tendency to scour the cattle eating it.

87. In Anantapur free grass-cutting was allowed in the forests in all distressed localities, but no alteration was made in the rates for grazing in the jungles.

88. In Bellary the want of pasture made itself felt early in 1891, and from the setting in of the hot weather great difficulty was felt by cattle-owners, fodder becoming dearer from month to month. Large quantities of grass were cut on the Sandúr Hills and taken to different parts of the district, these jungles and those in Kurnool affording almost the only instances throughout the famine of forests being utilised to any considerable extent for the growth of grass to be cut and sold as hay in distant localities. The grass from the Sandúr Hills sold on the spot at three times the ordinary rates was carried chiefly to the four western taluks of the district, to the Bellary taluk and to parts of the Rayadrug taluk; owing to the long distance it was not conveyed in large quantities to the Alúr and Adóni taluks. During December 1891, 4,000 cart-loads of grass were cut from the Sandúr Hills by the ryots themselves which gave work to some 1,000 coolies a day on the average. The demand was reported to be increasing and 2,052 cart-loads were reported during the week ending 16th January 1892, and high charges were paid for cutting grass. To stimulate the grantees to cut the grass while still green, State loans were disbursed for "stacking Sandúr grass" by lump sums. The Rajah of Sandúr and the Forest Department realized about Rs. 3,500 and 9,300, respectively, by the sale of hill grass, no charges being incurred in either case, as the grass was cut and removed by the persons who took out licenses. But for the Sandúr supply, a considerable number of the surviving cattle would have succumbed and agricultural operations been very much retarded in consequence. With a view to relieve the scarcity of fodder in the Alúr taluk, trial consignments of forest grass from

the Nallamalas and of paddy straw from the Kistna delta were sent to Maddikera, a railway station on the eastern boundary of the taluk. Three waggon-loads of forest grass weighing 2⅗ tons were sent from Chelama to Maddikera at a total cost of Rs. 72–12–3, the railway charges alone being Rs. 51–15–0. Two of the three waggon-loads weighing 1·27 tons were sold for Rs. 35–10–0, the cost price being Rs. 42–14–8. This selling price was considered high in itself. The third truck-load of grass was 1 ton 3 cwt. (nearly) and cost Rs. 29–13–7 delivered, but as there was very little demand for the grass at this price, attempts to sell it by public auction were made and though the sale was postponed several times for want of bidders, the hay had finally to be sold for Rs. 6–4–0 only, a sum far less than that realised for an equal amount of Sandúr hay. From Guntúr, a consignment of 1⅛ ton of paddy straw was sent to Maddikera at a cost delivered of Rs. 53–5–4 per ton, of which Rs. 34 was for railway charges, the minimum charge on a 3-ton waggon. The cost thus came to the prohibitive rate of 42 lb. per rupee. The large increase over the price at which it was hoped to be possible to deliver it, viz., Rs. 32–5–4 per ton, or about 70 lb. per rupee, being due mainly to the great rise in the price of paddy straw in the Kistna delta owing to the failure of crops and pasture in the adjoining district of Nellore. To land it, however, at Maddikera at the lower price given above, it would have been necessary to press it and no presses were available at Bezwada. Under these circumstances the attempt to import straw into the Bellary district from the Kistna delta was abandoned. Rupees 15 was offered for the straw but not accepted, and it was finally sold, after the season had improved, for Rs. 7–8–0 to avoid further loss.

89. In Kurnool, until the rains of 1892 began, there was a universal dearth of pasturage, while fodder was available only for the valuable cattle. The ryots were allowed to cut and remove cart-loads or head-loads of grass free of charge in the forests, and they availed themselves of this concession largely. Thousands of cart-loads appear to have been taken by them from the Sirvel forests for Koilkuntla and from the Nandyál forests for Pattikonda, Nandyál, Cumbum and Markapur. The Forest Department cut and stored hay at several places for sale to the amounts shown in the margin at an average cost of Rs. 6–8–6 per ton or 343 lb. per rupee. Except, however, the 20 tons of hay stacked at Digumetta and small amounts elsewhere which were sold, the ryots did not show themselves willing to purchase the grass.

Places.	Tons.	Cost.			Receipts.		
		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Dornál	24	317	11	0	100	0	0
Digumetta	20	158	11	0	175	0	0
Chelama	248	1,370	0	0	155	0	0
Venkatapuram	419	2,798	0	0	186	0	0
Total ..	711	4,644	6	0	..		

An experiment was made in transporting some of the hay to Bellary where fodder was extremely scarce, but the results, which are noted under Bellary district, were unsatisfactory. A waggon-load of the Chelama hay was also taken to Markapur and sold there by auction for Rs. 16. There was no demand for the remainder of the hay. In the Cumbum and Markapur taluks demonstrations of the method of using prickly-pear leaves as fodder were conducted by the Revenue officers and Stock Inspectors on famine duty; the latter taking with them, wherever they went, cows trained to eat prickly-pear. The experiments, however, seem to have had but little result. A few cattle were kept alive on prickly-pear with a modicum of grass in a small enclosure in the neighbourhood of the Markapur famine kitchen, but few ryots seem to have profited by the example, and there is reason to fear that the nutritious powers of the plant are of but little value. On the whole the attempts made to induce the ryots to adopt prickly-pear as a fodder were, in the Commissioner's opinion, a failure, though the greatest credit is due to numbers of officers who did their best by example as well as by precept to show the ryots the uses of the fodder.

90. In Nellore owing to the depletion of the stock of fodder in the northern taluks, the District Forest-officer was directed to cut and stack hay in villages near the Veligondas in Udayagiri taluk for sale to ryots during the hot weather, as the ryots themselves would not do so. Sixty-three and a half tons of hay were cut and stacked near Boggu Venkatapuram, of which 2¼ tons were sold to the ryots for Rs. 22–8–0. The rest remained unsold when the rains set in.

91. *Cattle mortality.*—Notwithstanding the measures taken for the preservation of cattle there can be no doubt that great losses have been experienced in the stock in the distressed districts. Such a result, however, is practically inevitable when there is a dearth of fodder owing to the failure of rain, so long as innumerable cattle are allowed to live in ordinary years solely on what can be picked up on the village grazing-grounds, the owners being unable to afford to keep them alive by purchased fodder. In an average year these cattle manage to get through the dry season by the aid of the little grass obtainable by the road-sides and on the village grazing-grounds. In times of dearth, however, they must succumb. They are not worth the expenditure necessary to keep them alive. It should be borne in mind too that in times of famine when man himself is suffering as well as the cattle from a scarcity of food, an unusual number of cattle are slaughtered to meet this want, and that the reduction in the number of cattle is not therefore wholly a loss. No record of the losses from starvation and thirst is available, but so far as the records of the two most recent censuses show them the losses from all causes together are exhibited below. It is only, however, of recent years that much attention has been given to these censuses, and it is possible that in some respects, and especially as regards the number of young stock returned, the latest censuses are more complete than the earlier ones :—

Districts.	Number of horned cattle.							
	Tilling.	Breeding.	Young.	Total.	Tilling.	Breeding.	Young.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	In May 1890.				*In May* 1892.			
Nellore	172,136	260,166	175,402	607,704	170,207	242,375	197,659	610,241
Cuddapah	238,874	326,220	333,330	898,424	226,135	267,676	301,255	795,066
Kurnool	178,483	226,786	221,209	626,478	175,231	214,787	213,968	603,986
	In October 1890.				*In October* 1892.			
Bellary	235,165	196,205	223,676	655,046	215,870	145,837	153,516	515,223
Anantapur	184,837	207,655	210,111	602,603	181,566	177,065	180,670	539,301
North Arcot	299,582	273,376	253,214	826,172	288,846	221,997	214,502	725,345
Chingleput	193,083	142,298	83,218	418,599	{ 198,259	138,564	124,860	461,683
					{ 189,931	136,693	132,050	* 458,674
Salem	268,098	479,214	349,967	1,097,279	238,248	399,578	269,892	907,718
Coimbatore	357,378	506,483	370,020	1,233,881	347,694	439,817	318,780	1,106,291

Districts.	Loss or gain between the censuses.				Remarks.
	Tilling.	Breeding.	Young.	Total.	
	10	11	12	13	14
	Of May 1890 *and* 1892.				
Nellore	— 1,929	— 17,791	+ 22,257	+ 2,537	
Cuddapah	— 12,739	— 58,544	— 32,075	— 103,358	Excluding Pullampet.
Kurnool	— 3,252	— 11,999	— 7,241	— 22,492	
	Of October 1890 *and* 1892.				
Bellary	— 19,295	— 50,368	— 70,160	— 139,823	
Anantapur	— 3,271	— 30,590	— 29,441	— 63,302	
North Arcot	— 10,736	— 51,379	— 38,712	— 100,827	Excluding Wallajah.
Chingleput	{ + 5,176	— 3,734	+ 41,642	+ 43,084	
	{ — 3,152	— 5,605	+ 48,832	+ 40,075	Comparison of 1890 and 1891.
Salem	— 29,850	— 79,636	— 80,075	— 189,561	
Coimbatore	— 9,684	— 66,666	— 51,240	— 127,590	

* Census of October 1891.

92. In the three districts first mentioned, the annual census is taken in May; and in May 1892, owing to the continuance of the drought, many cattle may have been on distant grazing-grounds, and so not enumerated. Still the record shows a very large decrease in the tilling and breeding cattle both in Cuddapah and Kurnool.

In the remaining districts the annual census is taken in October every year. Both in Bellary and Anantapur the loss of cattle was very great, but fell chiefly on the breeding and young stock, which showed, in some taluks, a number in 1892 smaller by one-fourth or one-third than two years before. In Bellary also there was a general loss of 8 per cent. of the tilling cattle.

In North Arcot and Chingleput, which felt the effects of the drought in 1891 to its full extent, the losses were especially heavy in the former district, where there was a decrease of nearly 20 per cent. in the number of breeding and young stock, the losses having been heavier even in the eastern taluks of the district. In Chingleput, there were considerable losses also in the northern and central taluks; but, owing to defects in the earlier returns, especially in regard to the number of young stock, the results for the other taluks are doubtful.

In Salem and Coimbatore, the losses during the two years were also very large, and occurred, as elsewhere, chiefly amongst the breeding animals, whilst a large decrease is shown in the young stock. In Salem, the taluks which suffered most were Dharmapuri, Uttankarai, Salem and Tiruchengódu; and in Coimbatore, those of Kollegal, Bhavani, Palladam and Karúr.

93. Altogether in the nine districts alluded to, the gross decrease amongst horned cattle during the two years amounted to over 700,000 head; whilst, if allowance be made for improvements in the registration of young stock, which an examination of the returns shows must have occurred in some taluks, the gross loss must have been larger. These figures do not include any losses in the large zemindaries of Nellore and North Arcot where they were certainly large. It is satisfactory to find that notwithstanding the certain large loss of cattle there was during the past agricultural year, ending 30th June last, no decrease in the area brought under cultivation compared with the average in any of the nine districts with the exception of the Coimbatore district where a decrease of 105,930 acres in dry land cultivated is owing to the specially bad season experienced last year in the southern taluks. The increase in dry and wet cultivation together in the remaining districts ranges from 21,934 acres in Chingleput to 384,763 acres in Kurnool, and in the whole eight districts amounts to 990,888 acres or 9·25 per cent. in excess of the average.

94. *Cost of relief measures.*—The expenditure incurred by the State by the opening of relief works, the grant of gratuitous relief and the remission of assessment caused by the failure of the seasons in excess of the average remissions is shown below:—

		RS.
Cost of works undertaken for the relief of distress		16,53,178
Cost of gratuitous relief		64,978
Charges of special establishments not debited to "famine relief."		1,15,983
Remissions of land revenue in excess of those of a normal year—	RS.	
In 1890–91	10,83,467	
In 1891–92	29,82,670	
		40,66,137
Total ...		59,00,276 *

In addition to the remissions of revenue particularised above, suspension of collections for a period generally of one year were allowed in large numbers of instances in 1890–91 and in 1891–92, while unusually large advances were made in the distressed

* In Kurnool, Rs. 3,556 were advanced for the relief of weavers, of which Rs. 2,159 were recovered by the sale of cloths made by them.

tracts under the Agriculturists' Loans Act and the Land Improvement Loans Act. The advances under the Loans Acts were mainly for the construction or repair of wells, or for the purchase of cattle, or of fodder for cattle, or of seed-grain, and in the affected districts, amounted during 1891–92 to Rs. 15,52,842 and in 1892–93 to Rs. 20,55,154; the advances made in each year in the Presidency as a whole amounting to Rs. 16,85,665 and Rupees 22,75,006, respectively, as compared with an average of Rs. 2,07,494 in the three previous years as noted in the margin.

Advances in the Madras Presidency under the Agriculturists' Loans Act and the Land Improvement Loans Act.

	RS.	Average. RS.
1888–89	1,67,339	2,07,494
1889–90	1,83,640	
1890–91	2,71,504	
1891–92	16,85,665	
1892–93	22,75,006	

95. The different items of expenditure in connection with the famine will be noticed in order :—

Cost of works Rs. 16,53,177.—Particulars of the expenditure on works in each district are given below :—

Districts.	Roads.	Irrigation.		Miscellaneous.	Special establishment charges.	Total.
		By Public Works Department.	By Revenue Department.			
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Coimbatore ..	74,420 3 5	..	..	..	1,274 13 2	75,695 0 7
Salem	1,10,370 4 10	1,113 10 0	3,701 3 7	..	3,448 13 0	1,18,633 15 5
North Arcot ..	52,300 9 0	50,976 7 6	11,238 13 11	* 6,299 15 7	19,843 4 4	1,40,659 2 4
Chingleput ..	13,136 12 8	96,807 1 8	83,642 11 9	..	3,430 3 1	1,97,016 13 2
Nellore	1,88,241 3 6	9,260 3 11	55,067 4 11	† 36,345 9 8	15,339 12 4	3,04,254 2 4
Cuddapah ..	61,668 15 5	57,604 2 0	30,916 14 11	‡ 7,648 10 6	27,723 15 1	1,85,562 9 11
Anantapur ..	3,647 12 0	6,800 2 7	..	§ 5,249 4 11	10,444 12 1	26,141 15 7
Bellary	1,66,595 13 5	19,457 4 11	..	..	15,497 2 7	2,01,550 4 11
Kurnool	2,12,483 11 11	1,57,726 4 9	8,339 0 0	*1,048 8 6	24,066 2 6	4,03,663 11 8
Total ..	8,82,865 6 2	3,99,745 5 4	1,92,906 1 1	56,592 1 2	1,21,068 14 2	16,53,177 11 1

* Water-supply works only.

—	Nellore.†	Cuddapah.‡	Anantapur.§
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Water-supply works	23,132 2 7	1,831 7 5	110 10 1
Forest fencing	1,186 0 0	4,857 15 9	5,138 10 10
Prickly-pear	2,027 7 1	959 3 4	..
Total ..	36,345 9 8	7,648 10 6	5,249 4 11

A preference was everywhere given to irrigation works, where such could be found suitable, for giving employment to all in need, but the absence of those works in the distressed tracts in Coimbatore, Salem, Nellore and Bellary and their insufficiency in Kurnool and elsewhere rendered the taking up of road repairs compulsory.

The expenditure on roads which amounted to Rs. 8,82,865, as shown above, constituted 53 per cent. of the total expenditure on works. The expenditure on irrigation works amounted to Rs. 5,92,651, or 36 per cent. of the total expenditure, while Rs. 56,592 was spent on miscellaneous works, Rs. 42,423 of the amount being incurred on works for the improvement of the drinking water-supply. The difficulties of obtaining drinking water for man and beast, which at certain periods of the distress gave rise to very grave anxiety, were very largely mitigated and relieved by the wells numbering many thousands which were dug for irrigation purposes from advances made under the Loans Acts.

96. A statement is printed in the appendix which gives the normal value, or value at normal rates, of the different descriptions of work carried out in each district.

The following abstract shows the normal value as compared with the actual cost of road works, large and small irrigation works and miscellaneous works.

Class of works.	Actual cost.	Normal value.	Excess cost.	Cost of works for which normal value not reported.	Total expenditure on all works.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Roads	8,82,865	5,42,315	3,40,550	..	8,82,865
Large irrigation	3,48,769	2,65,921	82,848	50,976	3,99,745
Minor do.	1,50,750	1,48,356	2,394	42,156	1,92,906
Miscellaneous	50,292	44,660	5,632	6,300	56,592
Total	14,32,676	10,01,252	4,31,424	99,432	
				Establishment	1,21,069
				Grand Total	16,53,177

It is necessary, however, to point out that the fact that expenditure on a particular work has exceeded the normal does not of necessity point to slackness of administration, or to undue leniency in tasking. In the great majority of cases in the past two years the Commissioner is convinced that the work done was all that could reasonably be exacted from the workers who in general worked well and to the full extent of their ability. The excess cost over the normal is in the main attributable to the fact that the employment of cattle and carts for moving materials was prohibited, and also largely to the great rise in prices which, while proportionately increasing the cost of labour, left the work turned out by the labourer the same. In future under the system which fixes the wage of the famine labour at the equivalent in money of a fixed quantity of grain, the cost of relief of labourers when grain is selling at 8 seers the rupee will be twice as great as when grain is selling at 16 seers the rupee. Under the scale of wages prevailing in Madras during the past two years, which was based on the grant to the labourer of the equivalent of a certain amount of grain *plus* a fixed sum of money, the difference in the rate of wages in the case quoted above would not have been so large, but would still have been very considerable. At 8 seers per rupee the wages of a man, woman and child paid at 3rd-class rates would have been As. 4–7 or more than 50 per cent. in excess of the amount payable if prices had stood at 16 seers per rupee. The employment of cattle and carts was prohibited as involving an unnecessary addition to the cost of relief. It was necessary to spend, as already shown, the sum of Rs. 15,32,108 in the payment of wages to men, women and children for the relief of distress, but it was not necessary to spend any further sum, and no further sum was allowed to be spent, though such extra expenditure—the amount of which, however, it would be difficult to calculate—might, and doubtless would, have largely increased the value of the work turned out as compared with the cost.

97. *Gratuitous Relief*, *Rs.* 64,978.—The total expenditure in each district during 1891–92 and 1892–93 on gratuitous relief is shown in the subjoined statement :—

Districts.	Purchase of food in bazaars.	Petty establishment.	Sundries.	Total.
	In 1891–92.			
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Cuddapah	57 6 4	55 2 5	14 3 2	126 11 11
Anantapur	..	28 8 8	35 0 0	63 8 8
Chingleput	10,478 2 0	1,349 14 2	1,987 14 6	13,815 14 8
North Arcot	23,236 3 8	2,789 5 4	* 1,835 6 5	27,860 15 5
Salem	1,418 3 9	276 5 1	185 7 10	1,880 0 8
Coimbatore	3,495 4 7	482 5 9	1,258 10 2	5,236 4 6
Total in 1891–92	38,685 4 4	4,981 9 5	* 5,316 10 1	48,983 7 10

* Includes Rs. 114 money doles.

Districts.	Purchase of food in bazaars.	Petty establishment.	Sundries.	Total.
		In 1892–93.		
Nellore	1,377 8 0	275 13 6	* 247 0 6	1,900 6 0
Bellary	320 0 9	305 3 0	194 9 1	819 12 10
Cuddapah	243 13 4	65 13 11	60 15 1	370 10 4
Anantapur	1,581 7 11	582 15 1	455 5 6	2,619 12 6
Kurnool	4,535 14 3	1,108 8 6	1,022 12 7	6,667 3 4
North Arcot	232 13 10	38 9 7	189 6 3	460 13 8
Salem	2,633 3 8	259 10 8	262 9 3	3,155 7 7
Total in 1892–93 ..	10,924 13 9	2,636 10 3	* 2,432 10 3	15,994 2 3
Grand Total ..	49,610 2 1	7,618 3 8	7,749 4 4	64,977 10 1

* Includes Rs. 84–6–1 money doles.

The expenditure was greatest in North Arcot where it amounted to Rs. 28,322 or nearly half of the total expenditure incurred on gratuitous relief throughout the Presidency. It was also considerable in Chingleput where it amounted to Rs. 13,816. In Kurnool it was under Rs. 7,000, in Coimbatore and Salem a little over Rs. 5,000 each, while in the remaining districts it was very trifling. An attempt has been already made (paragraph 55) to explain why the resort to gratuitous relief was so limited on the part of the affected population. Work was given to all who were capable of working at all, and the preference for work, which was so generally and so markedly manifested everywhere, was encouraged to the utmost possible extent. In North Arcot and Chingleput the kitchens met a manifest want as is evidenced by the quotation given in paragraph 5 of the Collector's report from the letter of Dr. Walker who was specially deputed by Government to inspect the relief kitchens in the affected tracts in North Arcot. In the other districts experience showed that they were not so necessary. It is however in the Commissioner's opinion of great importance that kitchens should be opened contemporaneously with large works to meet a possible necessity. Sickness may at any time drive a family to seek gratuitous relief, and the experiences of the last two years give satisfactory evidence that this form of relief will not be abused.

A mould similar to that used in making bricks was introduced by Mr. LeFanu in North Arcot for measuring the ration of grain boiled to a thick consistency. It was found most useful and was introduced eventually into Chingleput, Bellary, Kurnool, Anantapur and Nellore. The measure supplies the want alluded to in paragraph 16 of the report of Mr. Sturrock, Collector of Coimbatore, and will be prescribed in the code for use in all cases where the grain is cooked in the form of a stiff porridge. In other cases the Collector of the district will be required at the commencement of operations to prescribe the form of measure to be used in each kitchen.

98. *Remissions.*—The remissions granted in the distressed districts in faslis 1300 and 1301 or the agricultural years ending 30th June 1891 and 30th June 1892 are shown below:—

Districts.	Fasli 1300.			Fasli 1301.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Tinnevelly	83,245	3,91,803	4,75,048	..	..	..
Coimbatore	..	55,902	55,902	..	..	..
Salem	..	36,375	36,375	849	1,01,008	1,01,857
North Arcot	..	75,462	75,462	..	4,12,611	4,12,611
Chingleput	..	3,36,407	3,36,407	..	4,52,033	4,52,033
Nellore	..	1,93,090	1,93,090	1,70,550	6,50,100	8,20,650
Cuddapah	..	1,49,001	1,49,001	..	2,94,908	2,94,908
Anantapur	..	..	..	1,17,271	1,67,326	2,84,597
Bellary	..	..	..	6,49,551	42,221	6,91,772
Kurnool	..	..	..	95,812	91,867	1,87,679
Total ..	83,245	12,38,040	13,21,285	10,34,033	2,212,074	32,46,107

They amounted to a total for the two years of Rs. 45,67,395, being in excess of two years' average remissions by Rs. 40,66,137. Remissions on unirrigated land, which in this Presidency are granted only "in very exceptional years or under very exceptional circumstances," were allowed in the first of the two years in the Tinnevelly district only and amounted to Rs. 83,245. In the second of the two years they amounted to the large sum of Rs. 10,34,033 and were granted in five districts, the largest remission Rs. 6,49,551 being allowed in the Bellary district where, as stated in paragraph 15, no less than 417,500 acres of land in excess of the average were left entirely unsown owing to the deficiency of rain. A remission of the full dry assessment was also granted in the affected taluks on crops, the yield of which was not in excess of one-eighth of an average crop. In general the crops in question were not found worth the reaping.

The remissions on irrigated land amounted in fasli 1300 (1890–91) to Rs. 12,38,040 in seven districts, and in fasli 1301 (1891–92) to Rs. 22,12,074 in eight districts. They were granted under the ordinary rules, and were specially high in 1892 in North Arcot, Chingleput and Nellore in parts of the distress where relief works were not in progress. They were the result of the specially bad seasons experienced in the districts concerned.

99. *Modifications necessary in the Famine Code.*—Proposals will be separately submitted for a recasting of the Famine Code in view to giving increased clearness as to its requirements; but the only important modifications, which the working of the Code during the last two years or during the famine in Ganjám in 1889 has suggested or has shown to be necessary, are those in connection with the rules for the granting of gratuitous relief; those determining the agency by which relief works shall be supervised; and those in regard to the wage and to the classification of labourers on relief works. One other modification, small in itself but of very great importance, is the substitution of binding rules for the conduct of relief works, with prescribed forms for nominal rolls, payment vouchers, records of outturn of work, &c., in lieu of the "Hints for the execution of Relief Works" which form appendix A of the Madras Famine Code and to which a note at the head of the rules shows that "rigid adherence is not expected." The experience of the past period of distress and the Commissioner's own experience throughout the great famine in Kurnool has convinced him that it is possible to form a code of rules for the management of most of the operations of relief, which can be followed absolutely under nearly all circumstances, and that to give officers merely "hints" is to leave them free to adopt a variety of systems, each of which is almost certain to be less suitable than the one which Government can now prescribe, if only owing to the haste in which on the outbreak of distress it must be drawn up, and to the possible ignorance of the officer as to the requirements. The Commissioner is satisfied that the existence of rules and standard forms will be of enormous convenience to all officers entrusted with the opening of relief works. The Commissioner would, of course, have power to modify any rule of mere procedure found inapplicable to peculiar circumstances.

100. *Gratuitous relief.*—The question as to which form of gratuitous relief was most suitable was considered in connection with the late famine in Ganjám in which gratuitous relief was resorted to on an unusually large scale; the different systems considered being relief by (1) a money-dole, or (2) a grain-dole, or (3) by the distribution of cooked food. The Collector of Ganjám condemned money-doles altogether, and considered that they should be abolished, gratuitous relief being confined to the distribution of raw grain to caste people and people unable from old age or sickness to leave their homes, and of cooked food to non-caste people. The Board considered that this proposal involved hardship, and although it saw no objection to requiring that willingness to accept cooked food should be used as a test to distinguish the really needy, in cases where the acceptance of cooked food would not be contrary to real caste scruples, it thought that where need was undoubted relief should not of necessity take the form of cooked food but might well be given in the form most congenial to the recipient when no extra cost to the State would be involved. It recommended that section 64 of the Madras Famine Code which gave a preference

to money over grain doles should be modified, and that the general rule should be that relief should be given in the shape of grain-doles, money-doles being restricted to very exceptional cases.

101. In its orders reviewing the report on the Ganjám famine, Government expressed the opinion that cooked food is the best form of relief for all who cannot earn wages on relief works, and it went on to observe as follows:—

G.O., dated 19th December 1890, No. 1026, Revenue.

"As regards the alleged difficulty of adopting it generally on the ground of caste scruples, the Government does not consider that any such scruples are *boná fide* or should be recognized which do not involve loss of caste by accepting the relief; if the food is cooked by Brahmins in a kitchen to which none but Brahmins have access there is no room for any such scruples. There need be no compulsion. The Government offers cooked food under arrangements which do not affect the caste of the recipient in any way, and if the people refuse to accept the food thus offered, the natural presumption is that they have other means of subsistence. Acceptance of cooked food is the truest and safest test of the need for gratuitous relief, but the objection to relying exclusively on this form of relief is that it would be difficult to work on a large scale if there were widespread distress. When a large proportion of a not very dense population has to be relieved, the organization of adequate distribution of cooked food becomes almost impossible. The Government therefore thinks that some discretion should be given to officers in special cases to substitute grain-dole for cooked food.

"As between the money-dole and grain-dole system there is not much to choose, those who are bent on extortion can levy a contribution on the grain nearly as easily as on the money doles, and grain can be bartered for liquor and other articles, so that the grain system does not really afford any great security that the relief will be properly applied and that the bounty of Government will not be abused, whilst it is somewhat more troublesome to work than the money-dole system, since it generally involves large purchases of grain by Government, carriage, wastage, storage, &c., whereas money is more easily carried about, guarded and counted. Grain-doles, however, possess this advantage over money-doles, namely, that embezzlement of grain is not quite so easy as that of money, while its distribution can be more easily supervised. On the whole, therefore, the Government considers that grain-doles should be maintained and money-doles given up.

102. But very little further experience in connection with the administration of gratuitous relief has been earned during the past season of distress. It has been found possible everywhere to confine gratuitous relief to the distribution of cooked food, but the numbers of the destitute who have been absolutely unable to work have everywhere been very limited, owing perhaps as much as anything else to the general very good health enjoyed by the labourers on relief works. No serious epidemic has filled the villages with sick and starving, all the needy have been able to live and to do enough to earn a sufficiency on the works. The Commissioner considers that the distribution of cooked food in kitchens or in camps, when camps have to be organized, may be made the chief mode of gratuitous relief, but that it is impossible to rely on it entirely, and that it is necessary to make provision in the Code for the grant of gratuitous relief in the form of grain-doles. The figures in the statement in paragraph 55 show the enormous numbers who may require relief in a season of distress, and though it may be hoped that the country will never again be afflicted with so widespread a famine as that of 1876—78, it is too much to expect that individual districts will not suffer as Guntur in 1833, Ganjám in 1866 and in 1889, or as did numbers of the Madras districts in the year 1866.

103. No provision is made in the Code for the payment of children accompanying their parents to the works who are too young to join the working gangs. In the famine of 1876—78 a sum of ¼ anna was paid to the parent for each such child, but similar allowances are not now admissible, this form of relief having been discontinued under the impression that parents kept the money for themselves and did not feed their children properly. The impression was doubtless prevalent to a certain extent among

officers who administered relief in 1876—78, but perhaps officers failed to realise the extent to which parents were suffering themselves, and that they were probably suffering to at least as great an extent as the children. During the past famine the Commissioner is glad to say that he remembers no single case where a child had been neglected, and mothers almost invariably insisted on sharing their food with their children rather than let the latter go to the relief houses, though these latter were clean, were not enclosed, were free to the inspection of everybody, and though the cooks were all castemen.

The Commissioner is of opinion that where a sufficient wage is earned by the parents for their own support, their wage may without objection be supplemented by a small additional grant for each child unable to work, if at any time and for any reason this course should seem preferable to feeding the children in kitchens.

104. *Agency by which relief works shall be supervised.*—In its review of the report on the relief operations in Ganjám in 1888–89, the Government expressed the opinion that Civil agency works, by which are meant works carried out under the supervision of non-professional Civil officers, should be abolished on the ground that it was a waste of money to try and work weakly men without proper supervision which Civil officers could not exercise as well as Professional officers. They considered that all works carried on for purposes of relief should be classed as Professional agency, the staff of the Department of Public Works being strengthened for the purpose to such extent as may be necessary. All applicants for work however weakly were to be employed, the task allotted being adjusted to the capacity of each, and full wages being paid to all who work up to the extent of their powers irrespective of the outturn. The labourers were to be roughly classified as at present according to their capacity to perform a full task or only 75 or 50 per cent. thereof. Piece-work was to be retained only for able-bodied labourers placed in the first class. The employment of contractors and middlemen was to be prohibited. The Government considered that the above plan was " best calculated to prevent a waste of money, and that by paying full wages for the best day's work a man can turn out according to his classification, the strength of the weakly would be soonest restored and the best return obtained for the money spent."

105. Every effort was made during the past period of distress to utilise Professional agency as distinct from Civil agency to the largest extent possible, the general supervision of road works, on which a very large percentage of those seeking relief were employed, being entrusted to the Engineers of the Local Boards. The number of professional officers is, however, very limited, and it will probably be necessary whenever distress is at all widespread to trust very largely to Civil agency for the supervision of relief works. Wherever labour can be usefully employed on the storing of metal and gravel along existing roads, experience has shown that the supervision of works can be trusted with perfect safety to the Revenue officers, who need but little instruction to enable them to carry out the rules in force for the division of the workers into gangs of a prescribed strength; the preparation of the nominal rolls, the fixing of the task of the gang, the stacking in heaps of uniform prescribed dimensions the work of the day, the measurement and record of the work of the gang and the calculation and regular disbursement of the pay due. For the supervision of work of this kind professional training is not necessary. There were but few large works carried out for the relief of distress which were not visited on several occasions by the Commissioner, and in the great majority of cases the Commissioner was satisfied with the arrangements for allotting, measuring and recording the work of the different gangs on the work and for enforcing a suitable task, and this was the case not less in works carried out under the supervision of the Revenue authorities than in those carried out under Professional agency. For the supervision of irrigation works the services of professional officers are a necessity.

106. *Wages and the classification of labourers.*—The wages prescribed in the Madras Famine Code and which were those enforced wherever the Code was introduced are as shown below, the grain being that which forms the staple food of the district. The weight allowed in the case of ragi was that of the grain freed from the husk and in the case of other dry grains that of the unhusked grain :—

—	Men.	Women.	Children.
First class.—The ordinary labourers of the Public Works Department, skilled labourers and those who are accustomed to manual labour of the kind demanded and who have not suffered from famine.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. grain + $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ lb. grain + 1 anna.	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb. grain + $\frac{3}{4}$ anna.
Second class.—All able-bodied and healthy persons whose strength is not impaired by age and infirmity, who are not accustomed to work of the kind demanded, but who are capable of doing 75 per cent. of the task commonly performed by the labourers of class I at such work.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. grain + 1 anna.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ lb. grain + $\frac{3}{4}$ anna.	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb. grain + $\frac{1}{2}$ anna.
Third class.—All others who, though not fit for classes I and II, are yet able to do 50 per cent of a full day's work of class I.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ lb. grain + $\frac{3}{4}$ anna.	$1\frac{1}{8}$ lb. grain + $\frac{1}{2}$ anna.	$\frac{5}{8}$ lb. grain + $\frac{3}{8}$ anna.

107. The propriety of the general classification of labourers adopted in the Famine Codes of the different Provinces was discussed by the Government of India in its Resolution, No. 5 F., dated 2nd March 1892, in which it was pointed out that the Codes of some Provinces erred in allowing unnecessarily large wages to be earned by piece-work or otherwise. They showed that it was the object of the Famine Commissioners to restrict the admission on relief works to those who are compelled by necessity to come to them, and argued that this restriction would be frustrated if unlimited piece-work were allowed. They quoted the Famine Commission to show that "some safeguards are essential in the interests of the destitute people no less than of the public treasury to prevent unlimited numbers being attracted to the works, and that one of the chief and best tests for this purpose was the demand of labour commensurate in each case with the labourer's powers in return for a wage sufficient for the purposes of maintenance, but not more; that it is not expedient to add to the outlay on relief or to the consumption of food beyond what is essential; and that no object is to be gained by the early completion of any work put in hand; and again that though State employment should be offered promptly, yet care must be taken "that the cost to which the community as a whole is put by the employment of persons in want is not more than the case strictly requires."

108. Referring specially to the Madras Presidency, the Government of India pointed out in its letter, dated 17th March 1892, No. 498-44, communicating the resolution referred to above, that the classification of labourers under the Madras Code was somewhat indefinite, and that if the views of many authorities were accepted, class I, which is allowed to earn the maximum wages admissible under the Code, might be made to include the bulk of the agricultural population. In his remarks, which were called for by Government on the letter of the Government of India, the Commissioner pointed out that in the Madras Presidency the division of those resorting to relief works into the classes contemplated by the Famine Code had not been followed. In practice the Commissioner observed "it has been found very difficult to enforce any classification of labourers, owing to the unwillingness of families to be separated. Very few labourers of class I have resorted to the works. The present distress has not been severe enough to touch that class, and the digging of wells, which has been so greatly furthered by State loans, has tended to throw an unusually large amount of lucrative employment into their hands. Those resorting to the works have been labourers of classes II and III and weakly labourers who, under ordinary circumstances, would have formed a separate class of weakly gangs. The disinclination of the weaker members of the families, the nursing mothers, the young children, and the old to separation from their able-bodied relatives has resulted in their being all ganged and classed together. All gangs have been given the class III task, and where the task was executed, the class III pay; but they have been allowed for a proportionate increase of work to earn a proportionate increase of pay. It happens, therefore, that several class III gangs have earned class II pay, or have earned rates of pay between class III and II rates. An arbitrary division of the people into classes even where it involves separation among families is, of course, defensible when its object is to adjust the task to the individual, but it is unpopular, and where fair

work can be obtained from gangs where the strong and the weakly are mixed up, it seems unnecessary to forcibly separate the weakly from the strong. It is always possible even now to adjust the task to meet the composition of the gang, and if the proposals to be hereafter made for reducing the wages of classes I and II to a sum very slightly in excess of the class III wage are approved, there will be the less difficulty, inasmuch as the imposition of a perhaps too lenient task will not enable the gang to earn the largely increased sum it could now earn where for a double task a double (or nearly double) rate of pay is admissible."

109. Whatever be the classification adopted, its correctness would be tested and its incorrectness compensated for by the imposition of a suitable task and the payment of a wage proportioned to the outturn of work. Where large numbers of men, women and children are placed in the first class and paid first-class wages, the Commissioner would be inclined to think that the task exacted was insufficient. Unnecessary difficulties are raised and excessive and unnecessary expenditure is risked, the Commissioner considers, by allowing so large a sum as is allowed under the Madras Code between the wage of a first and that of a third class labourer, and he considers that the determination at which the Government of India has arrived that the wage of the first-class labourer shall be limited to a sum sufficient to maintain himself with a slight margin is correct. In that case it would exceed the third-class wage by a trifle only. As to the classification to be adopted in future, the Commissioner recommended that there should be three classes as follows :—

"Class I—All able-bodied labourers capable of doing 75 per cent of a full task and to be paid for doing that task $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 2 lb. and $1\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$ lb. for each man, woman and child, but with liberty to earn a further $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each per man and woman for a full day's ordinary work of a Public Works Department labourer. Class II—Labourers capable of doing 50 per cent. of the full task to be paid the same standard wage as those in class I, but to be allowed to earn up to $2\frac{3}{4}$ lb. for a man and $2\frac{1}{4}$ lb. for a woman for performing a task equal to 60 per cent. of the full day's ordinary work of a Public Works Department labourer. Class III would be formed of the weakly gangs to whom the standard wage would be paid. They should be given a light task, one which they are capable of performing with a reasonable amount of exertion, but their performance of this light task should be insisted on. They would not be in a position to earn anything above the standard wage."

110. In its order of the 11th August 1892, No. 839, Revenue, the Government accepted in the main the suggestions of the Government of India, and proposed the following classification for labourers on works and the following rates of wages :—

Classification.

I. Able-bodied labourers accustomed to work of the description provided on the relief works, *i.e.*, generally earthwork or stone-breaking.

II. Those who are unaccustomed to work of that description, such as artisans.

III. Weakly labourers capable of performing only a nominal task.

Standard wages—being the money-value of a certain weight of the staple food-grain, husked, or, in the case of ragi, reduced to flour, viz. :—

For a man, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. ... ... " a woman, 2 lb.	With the proviso that labourers in Class I may earn the value of an extra half pound for doing half as much again as the prescribed task. No excess wage being allowed in Class II.
" a child, $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ lb.	According to age and condition.

The classification proposed by Government excludes able-bodied persons accustomed to labour of the kind required on professional agency works. Regarding these the Government remarks :—

"As a rule these will be the last to come on relief; they will find employment on well-sinking and other private work requiring skilled labour and a certain number of ordinary public works should be set apart for their employment on piece-work. Paragraph 8 of the resolution of the Government of India above read recognizes the fact that it may in some cases be necessary to set apart a portion of a relief work for employment of skilled labour 'when the work is of such a character, or requires to be executed with such urgency, as to demand the employment of ordinary public works labour at full piece-work rates.' Such provision will be necessary not only for the above reasons, but in order that skilled labourers may have the opportunity of earning enough to keep themselves and their families in comfort and may not be forced to come on relief works, where they will be able merely to obtain a bare subsistence for themselves, their dependants being obliged to come on gratuitous relief. It is only fair that work should be provided for skilled labourers also, and that their requirements should not be ignored in the scheme of relief; but paragraph 30 of the Madras Code requires that 'all works which may be in progress within the famine zone will be considered famine works,' so that when a district is declared distressed all the budgeted works in progress must be converted into relief works and piece-work will cease. The code must be modified in this respect and as it will not generally be possible to set apart a portion of a relief work for piece-work labour, the works which are available for relief in this Presidency being generally so small that confusion would result from any attempt to work task-work and piece-work gangs in close proximity to each other; separate works must be reserved for skilled labourers on piece-work."

111. The Commissioner fears that the provision of special employment for these men may dissipate the strength of the Public Works Department in a time of famine in the supervision of small numbers when all their energies should be devoted to controlling or in assisting the Civil department in controlling the large numbers who in a time of pressure are in the habit of resorting to relief works. The Commissioner would also plead for the withdrawal of the restriction against gangs in Class II earning anything more than the standard wage. They are not less entitled to earn it than Class I labourers (the classification proposed by Government is alluded to) if they *can* earn it, and if they cannot earn it, it is unnecessary to rule that they shall not have it. There should, in the Commissioner's opinion, be in a time of famine no specially favoured classes, and, on the other hand, no specially disfavoured classes.

112. In its resolution already referred to, the Government of India dealt not only with the classification of labourers, but with the rates of wages suitable to each class. The unsuitability of any great difference between the wages of any one class and any other class where the object of the wage is only to ensure subsistence, and where the cost of living of one class does not differ materially from that of the others has already been touched on. The objections in this respect to the old schedule of wages under the Madras Famine Code will be obviated by the acceptance of the rates of wage proposed by the Madras Government, which are stated in paragraph 110 above. The Government of India asked further however that the desirability of allowing any portion of the wage to be estimated in money might be very carefully considered. They pointed out that the schedule of wages in the Madras Famine Code was drawn up in anticipation of a condition of prices which does not now prevail and which, in view of the improvement of railway communications, is not likely again to occur. It is undeniable that the money portion of the Madras famine wage for Classes I and II labourers under the code, which is meant to provide for the purchase of condiments only, is excessive, and under Class III the money portion of the wage, which is perhaps not greatly more than is adequate for the purpose intended, becomes, of course, of less value when prices rise. The allowance is either too much when prices are low or too little when prices are high. The Government of India suggested that, if there is reason to believe that the prices of condiments vary *pari passu* with the price of grain, the Bombay system of adopting grain only as the basis of calculation is fair enough, but that if the price of condiments has any recognized tendency to remain more constant than that of food-grains, it would seem desirable to set out a ration in terms of grain and condiments which should be converted with every material change of prices into a new money wage. It was the desire of the Government of India that the wage in different provinces should be calculated on uniform principles and they pointed out that prices "being the same there should be no essential difference at any time between the famine wage of one province and the famine wage of another, or prices being different between the famine ration of one province and the famine ration of another. Nor again they urged should there be any material difference between the famine ration of one period and that of another."

113. A consideration of the arguments urged by the Government of India led the Madras Government to the adoption of a wage based wholly on the value of grain. They were of opinion that it would be of great advantage to adopt a simple method of calculating the amount of the money wage and that provided the wage admitted of a small fraction being spent on condiments and vegetables it will suffice for all practical purposes.

The unsuitability of a wage based on the value of a certain amount of grain *plus* a fixed money allowance had been pointed out by the Commissioner on the experience of the past season of distress, the wage so calculated providing a far larger amount of food when prices were cheap than when they were dear, and thus proving most attractive when it should have been least attractive. The value of the famine wage in the Presidency, it was shown, when converted into grain had varied very largely during the 18 months of distress owing to the great rise in prices, the Class I wage of a man, which at the beginning of distress in Chingleput purchased 5·40 lb., being able in Nellore at a later date when prices were 12½ seers per rupee to purchase only 3·93 lb. Similarly the Class III wage of a man, which at 20 seers per rupee would purchase 3·20 lb., would with prices at 12½ seers per rupee purchase only 2·46 lb., and with famine rates and prices at 6 seers per rupee would purchase only 1·83 lb.

114. *Conclusion.*—Great additional labour of a peculiarly anxious nature was imposed upon all officers of Government in the distressed tracts, and the thanks of Government are due to these officers for the manner in which these duties everywhere cheerfully borne were carried out:—

The names of the officers on whom the heaviest work and heaviest responsibilities fell are given below:—

Chingleput ...	Mr. Tremenheere, Collector. „ Pinto, Deputy Collector.
North Arcot ...	Mr. LeFanu, Collector. „ Buckley, Head Assistant Collector. „ Watson, Engineer, Public Works Department. M.R.Ry. Lakshmana Row, Deputy Collector, Wandiwash.
Coimbatore ...	Mr. Sturrock, Collector. „ Harding, Head Assistant Collector. „ Stephens, Local Fund Engineer.
Salem	Mr. G. Stokes, Collector. „ E. A. Smith, Deputy Collector.
Bellary ...	Mr. R. Sewell, Collector. „ J. M. McInerny, Local Fund Engineer.
Kurnool ...	M.R.Ry S. Venkataramadas Nayudu, Deputy Collector, Cumbum. Mr. C. A. Smith, Engineer, Public Works Department.
Cuddapah ...	Mr. Wolfe-Murray. „ Atkinson. „ Foord, Public Works Department.
Nellore ...	Mr. C. D. Macleane. „ Mounsey, Sub-Collector. „ C. Scott, Local Fund Engineer.

115. The thanks of Government have already been given to Mr. Tremenheere (G.O., dated 29th October 1891, No. 1022, Revenue), and are also specially due to Mr. LeFanu, Mr. Sturrock and Mr. Atkinson, who have rivalled Mr. Tremenheere in the successful efforts which they have made to encourage the ryots of their districts to construct wells. The work done in this respect in the distressed districts during the past two years has been already noticed, and the benefits conferred on the people are incalculable.

To Mr. G. Stokes and to Mr. R. Sewell the thanks of Government are specially due for the very careful rules framed for the management of relief works in their districts and for their very careful supervision of the conduct of these works.

To Mr. C. A. Smith, Engineer, Public Works Department, M.R.Ry. Venkata Ramadas Nayudu, Deputy Collector, Cumbum, Mr. McInerny, Local Fund Engineer, Bellary, and Mr. Stephens, Local Fund Engineer, Coimbatore, are due the thanks of Government for their exceptional success in the management of relief works.

116. Among Tahsildars the Commissioner has already brought specially to notice the services of the marginally-noted officers, which have already been recognized by Government. The post of Tahsildar is one of a peculiarly onerous nature in a time of distress, and the Commissioner is glad to state that all officers of this class worked during the period with energy and devotion.

District.	Taluk.	—
Chingleput ..	Ponnéri ..	M. Arumugam Pillai
Kurnool ..	Markapur ..	K. Rustum Singh.
Bellary ..	Bellary ..	V. Chellapathy Naidu.
Cuddapah	Vayalpad ..	S. Pompathi Sastri.
Cuddapah	Ráyachóti ..	M. Varadacharlu.

117. The thanks of the Commissioner are specially due to Mr. C. Benson, Deputy Director of Agriculture, who assumed charge of the duties of Secretary to the Commissioner in the Famine Branch at the beginning of August 1891, at a time when the permanent Secretary Mr. Rajaratna Mudaliar, an old and experienced famine officer, was compelled to take leave broken down by the heavy work and anxiety imposed upon him in the early months of 1891. Mr. Benson continued in charge of the duties till the close of the period of distress. The punctuality with which the monthly famine reports were submitted to the Government of India, and the accuracy and celerity with which all the statistical information bearing on the progress of the famine was collected and embodied from week to week in the reviews of the district famine reports submitted to Government have been acknowledged by the Government of India on more than one occasion and were due very largely to his strenuous exertions.

I.

STATEMENT showing the areas sown in the affected districts during the period of distress as compared with the average for the five years ending 1889–90.

Districts.	Dry cultivation.			Wet cultivation.		
	Average.	1890–91.	1891–92.	Average.	1890–91.	1891–92.
	First crop.					
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Deccan—						
Kurnool	1,786,560	1,799,969	1,707,013	41,910	40,235	32,936
Bellary	1,862,456	2,004,988	1,449,335	42,635	43,250	37,165
Anantapur	1,179,847	1,176,682	1,002,193	88,594	81,414	64,749
Cuddapah	1,380,044	1,392,782	1,325,800	178,430	137,601	126,255
Carnatic—						
Nellore	742,235	794,104	780,121	210,607	204,025	186,827
Chingleput	215,465	223,526	185,636	350,115	336,123	288,870
Central—						
North Arcot	518,093	532,158	470,096	272,444	265,938	240,473
Salem	1,079,040	1,098,003	1,061,503	94,388	91,766	83,178
Coimbatore	2,080,540	1,999,372	2,082,397	90,701	94,928	92,088
South—						
Tinnevelly	889,649	863,963	867,921	191,306	184,175	201,349
	Second crop.					
Deccan—						
Kurnool	18,666	27,802	31,785	13,538	10,027	4,281
Bellary	5,817	13,299	6,388	7,985	9,287	6,811
Anantapur	23,476	24,025	22,555	26,987	26,620	15,278
Cuddapah	40,113	54,000	45,418	51,934	44,862	35,289
Carnatic—						
Nellore	57,817	68,205	44,773	15,337	15,574	10,695
Chingleput	14,968	24,074	17,415	61,283	57,199	36,969
Central—						
North Arcot	67,789	81,971	90,194	89,906	91,162	62,506
Salem	130,356	143,232	161,348	30,916	33,615	27,689
Coimbatore	161,948	265,837	179,161	26,714	29,096	29,420
South—						
Tinnevelly	64,616	104,381	70,002	108,117	94,470	116,592
	Total.					
Deccan—						
Kurnool	1,805,226	1,827,771	1,738,798	55,448	50,262	37,217
Bellary	1,868,273	2,018,287	1,455,723	50,620	52,537	43,976
Anantapur	1,203,323	1,200,707	1,024,748	115,581	108,034	80,027
Cuddapah	1,420,157	1,446,782	1,371,218	230,364	182,463	161,544
Carnatic—						
Nellore	800,052	862,309	824,894	225,944	219,599	197,522
Chingleput	230,433	247,600	203,051	411,398	393,322	325,839
Central—						
North Arcot	585,882	614,129	560,290	362,350	357,100	302,979
Salem	1,209,396	1,241,235	1,222,851	125,304	125,381	110,867
Coimbatore	2,242,488	2,265,209	2,261,558	117,415	124,024	121,508
South—						
Tinnevelly	954,265	968,344	937,923	299,423	278,615	317,941

II.

Statement showing the prices of staple food-grains in the affected districts during 1891 and 1892, compared with normal rates, and the prices prevailing during the great famine.

Districts and taluks.	Years.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee during the first six months.											
		January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.
CUDDAPAH.		*Cumbu.*						*Ragi.*					
District average ..	1876	26·0	25·8	24·9	24·5	25·2	24·3	27·7	27·7	27·3	27·6	27·6	26·7
	1877	7·4	7·7	8·2	8·4	8·0	7·6	7·6	9·0	10·0	9·9	8·6	8·6
	Normal ..	30·3	30·2	29·7	29·8	29·8	29·5	33·7	33·5	33·6	34·0	34·3	33·9
	1891	19·9	19·5	19·6	19·8	19·9	19·4	26·0	26·2	27·0	28·4	28·5	27·9
Ráyachóti ..	1876	29·4	29·0	29·0	26·8	27·6	29·0	30·0	30·0	30·0	30·0	30·0	30·0
	1877	6·9	7·6	8 8	8·8	8·5	8·0	7·1	8·6	10·7	10·7	9·1	9·1
	Normal ..	34·3	33·4	33·1	30·3	31·6	30·8	35·1	35·0	34·8	34·9	34·7	34·5
	1891	21·8	20·7	19·9	19·9	21·0	19·6	25·5	27·4	27·8	30·0	30·0	30·0
Vayalpad ..	1876	25·4	21·8	20·3	18·9	18·9	17·4	27·8	24·0	24·0	24·0	21·0	21·0
	1877	6·5	6·5	8·0	8·0	7·6	6·4	6·8	7·9	9·1	9·5	8·3	7·8
	Normal ..	31·9	31·1	30·0	30 9	32·2	33·3	40·0	38·8	40·0	39·8	41·6	40·0
	1891	17·4	17·4	17·4	17·4	18·9	18·9	24·0	24·0	24·0	24·0	27·0	28·5
NELLORE.		*Cholum.*						*Ragi.*					
District average ..	1876	27·3	27·8	27·1	28·1	27·8	27·5	28·6	28·5	28·8	29·9	29·8	29·6
	1877	8·0	8·9	9·4	9·4	9·2	9·4	8·1	9·2	10·6	11·2	10·7	10·6
	Normal ..	25·4	25·6	25·7	26·2	26·1	26·1	29·1	29·0	29·1	29·7	30·0	29·8
	1891	20·9	21·2	21·7	22·6	22·2	22·3	22·4	22·5	23·4	24·3	24·0	23·8
Rapur	1876	23·5	23·5	23·5	23·5	24·5	25·2	25·3	25·3	25·3	25·3	25·3	25·3
	1877	7·6	6·8	7·6	7·6	7·6	7·6	7·9	7·9	7·9	7·9	7·9	7·9
	Normal ..	24·9	24·8	24·7	24·3	24·7	24·7	27·9	27·8	27·6	27·9	27·9	28·2
	1891	18·0	18·7	18·0	18·6	16·9	16·8	20·6	21·7	22·1	22·1	20·6	20·6
Nellore ..	1876	25·0	25·7	24·7	26·9	26·9	29·0	25·5	28·0	27·5	28·2	28·2	28·2
	1877	7·9	9·6	10·1	10·6	10·1	10·3	7·7	9·8	10·7	11·1	10·5	10·5
	Normal ..	23·3	24·7	23·9	23·1	23·2	23·9	27·0	27·2	27·4	28·0	27·8	27·6
	1891	19·3	19·1	20·2	20·6	20·1	20·1	19·9	20·6	21·0	20·1	21·1	21·1
Gudur ..	1876	26·9	26·9	26·9	26·9	26·9	26·9	25 5	25·5	25·5	25·5	25·5	25·5
	Normal ..	22·1	20·4	20·2	21·6	21·6	20·2	25·5	25·5	25·5	27·0	25·5	25·5
	1891	20·2	20·2	20·2	20·2	20·2	20·0	21·0	21·1	21·1	21·1	21·1	20·9
Venkatagiri ..	1876	..	26·9	25·2	26·9	27·1	25·2	25·2	25·2	25·2	25·2	26·3	26·0
	1877	7·7	8·4	10·7	10·1	10·1	10·1	7·2	8·1	10·5	11·0	9·5	10·4
	Normal ..	22·7	21·8	21·5	24·3	23·8	23·8	29·0	28·4	28·2	28·8	32·6	31·0
	1891	19·1	21·1	21·2	21·1	21·6	20·9	22·3	23·3	24·0	24·2	23·6	21·8
		Rice.						*Ragi.*					
Madras ..	1876	12·0	12·1	12·0	11·8	11·7	11·5	19·9	20·3	18·9	19·3	19·3	18·6
	1877	7·7	8·9	9·3	9·7	8·8	8·3	9·4	10·1	11·1	10·8	10·0	9·6
	Normal ..	13·8	14·1	14·1	14·2	14·2	14·0	27·8	27·9	27·6	27·4	27·5	27·5
	1891	10·8	10·7	10·9	11·0	11·0	11·4	22·4	22·1	22·0	22·0	22·4	21·8
CHINGLEPUT.		*Rice.*						*Ragi.*					
District average ..	1876	15·5	16·4	16·2	16·0	15·9	15·2	22·7	22·3	22·0	22·4	22·6	21·1
	1877	8·8	9·4	9·5	9·6	9·0	8·4	9·7	10·8	11·2	11·7	10·9	9·9
	Normal ..	15·7	16·5	16·5	16·7	16·5	16·1	27·6	27·3	27·0	27·2	27·3	26·9
	1891	11·3	11·7	11·7	11·9	11·4	11·0	20·7	20·6	21·0	20·8	20·7	19·3
Ponnéri ..	1876	15·1	17·4	15·1	15·9	15·9	15·9	21·9	21·9	20·6	20·6	21·9	21·9
	1877	8·4	9·7	9·6	9·1	8·5	8·3	8·8	11·0	11·0	11·0	11·0	9·6
	Normal ..	15·1	16·6	15·7	18·6	17·7	17·4	26·4	27·0	26·6	26·9	26·6	26·9
	1891	11·7	12·1	12·1	12·1	11·8	11·3	19·8	19·4	21·0	19·4	19·5	19·0
Tiruvallúr ..	1876	14·5	13·6	15·9	14·3	14·3	13·6	21·9	20·6	21·9	21·9	21·9	19·2
	1877	8·1	9·4	9·8	9·6	9·2	8·3	8·6	10·3	11·3	12·3	12·6	10·3
	Normal ..	14·4	15·0	15·1	15·6	15·6	15·3	27·9	27·9	27·9	28·5	29·0	28·5
	1891	10·4	10·6	10·7	11·7	11·4	11·1	21·9	21·9	21·9	21·9	21·7	19·9
Saidapet ..	1876	12·8	13·6	13·6	14·3	13·6	13·3	19·9	20·2	19·5	20·0	20·9	19·9
	1877	8·3	9·3	9·3	9·3	8·7	8·7	9·6	11·1	11·0	11·2	10·6	9·8
	Normal ..	13·5	14·5	14·7	15·0	14·9	14·7	26·1	25·1	25·8	25·3	25·3	24·2
	1891	11·7	12·1	12·1	11·7	10·9	10·9	21·9	21·9	21·9	21·9	21·9	21·2
Conjeeveram ..	1876	18·8	18·8	18·8	18·3	18·3	17·4	25·7	25·7	23·1	23·9	23·9	23·1
	1877	10·5	8·7	8·5	8·9	8·9	8·0	12·4	10·3	10·3	11·1	11·1	9·2
	Normal ..	15·7	16·2	15·8	15·9	14·7	15·3	27·6	27·9	27·2	26·5	27·2	26·4
	1891	12·2	12·2	12·2	12·2	11·7	11·4	21·4	22·2	22·2	22·2	22·2	21·4
Chingleput ..	1876	17·5	17·5	17·5	16·6	16·6	15·8	22·3	22·3	20·7	22·3	22·3	20·7
	1877	7·9	9·0	8·8	9·2	8·8	8·3	8·7	10·3	11·1	11·5	10·3	9·5
	Normal ..	15·1	16·6	16·8	17·2	17·1	16·4	26·9	26·2	26·1	25·9	25·9	25·0
	1891	10·9	11·9	12·3	12·3	11·7	11·0	19·9	19·9	19·9	19·9	19·9	21·1
Madurántakam.	1876	15·8	18·4	18·4	17·5	17·5	15·8	23·9	23·9	25·4	25·4	25·4	20·7
	1877	9·6	9·6	10·5	10·9	9·6	8·8	9·9	12·3	11·9	11·9	11·9	11·1
	Normal ..	15·9	16·1	16·4	17·2	17·2	17·1	26·0	25·4	26·2	24·5	25·3	25·7
	1891	11·2	11·2	12·0	12·3	12·2	11·3	20·9	18·8	18·8	19·0	20·5	18·6

II.

Statement showing the prices of staple food-grains in the affected districts during 1891 and 1892, &c.—*cont.*

Districts and taluks.	Years.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee during the first six months.											
		January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.
NORTH ARCOT.		*Cumbu.*						*Ragi.*					
District average.	1876	21·2	20·6	19·9	18·6	19·2	18·5	22·5	22·4	22·0	21·9	23·1	21·3
	1877	8·1	8·8	8·7	8·9	8·2	7·7	8·5	9·4	9·7	10·8	9·8	9·1
	Normal ..	27·6	26·6	26·3	26·4	26·2	25·7	32·4	31·9	31 6	31·5	32·2	31·6
	1891	20·3	19·2	19·1	19·8	18·8	18·3	23·4	23·1	23·2	24·2	24·4	23·6
Kálahasti ..	1876	..	..	..	..	..	..	25·5	27·3	27·3	25 5	27·8	25·5
	1877	..	..	..	..	..	..	6·9	7·3	7·3	12·7	12·7	10·2
	Normal ..	29·6	29·0	26·3	26·3	24·5	28·0	32·8	32·8	33·5	32·0	34·0	33·0
	1891	16·6	17·0	17·0	17·9	17·5	17·5	20·0	22·2	22·8	22 8	21·8	20·9
Wandiwash ..	1876	..	..	..	..	..	..	23·7	21·8	21·8	20·0	20·9	20·8
	1877	..	..	..	..	..	..	9·1	10·9	11·1	12·2	10·6	10·4
	Normal ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	29·7	28·5	27·5	27·4	27·5	27·7
	1891	..	..	..	..	..	..	20·9	20·0	21·1	21·8	20·2	19·7
COIMBATORE.		*Cholum.*						*Cumbu.*					
District average.	1876	20·9	21·2	21·1	20·2	20·3	20·0	24·5	24·1	23·6	23·2	22·5	22·3
	1877	9·2	9·9	10·3	9·6	9·0	8·6	11·4	10·8	10·7	10·2	9·3	8·7
	Normal ..	25·1	25·1	25·4	26·0	25·7	25·1	31·5	31·0	30·5	30·1	28·9	29·1
	1891	18·6	18·4	19·4	19·4	18·7	18·1	21·2	20·7	20·9	20·5	19·4	19·0
Pollachi ..	1876	21·9	20·2	21·8	21·0	21·4	20·3	24·6	24·6	24·6	24·7	24·6	24·6
	1877	8·8	9·0	16·5	9·6	10·0	8 0	12·8	11·2	12·7	12·6	11·6	9·5
	Normal ..	22·7	22 6	22·8	22·8	22·3	22·7	31·1	30·5	29·9	28·3	27·7	27·6
	1891	19·1	19·1	19·1	17·8	17·4	17·4	..	..	22·3	22·3	..	..
Udamalpet ..	1876	23·2	23·2	23·2	23·2	22·2	20·3	26·3	24·5	24·5	24·5	24·5	24·5
	1877	9·4	9·7	9·7	8·8	8·7	8·8	12·0	10·6	10·6	10·7	9·4	10 4
	Normal ..	21·4	21·8	22·1	22·6	22·2	21·7	26·4	26·8	26·8	26·0	25·0	25·4
	1891	15·4	15·6	18·6	18·0	18·3	17·7	19·3	19 3	19·3	19·3	19·3	19·0
Coimbatore ..	1876	19·2	19·6	19·2	18·8	18·8	18·8	22·9	22·9	21·5	20·7	20·7	20·0
	1877	10·3	11·6	10·8	10·4	9·9	9·5	11·4	11·2	11·1	10·5	9·7	9·0
	Normal ..	21·7	21·9	21·9	21·2	20·9	23·0	25·2	24·5	23·9	23·2	23·4	23 5
	1891	18·6	18·2	19·6	19·6	19·1	18·6	21·2	20·7	20·7	20·0	20·7	19·9
Palladam ..	1876	18·8	20·4	19·6	18·8	18·8	18·8	24·3	24·3	23·6	22·9	22·9	22·9
	1877	10·3	10·4	9·1	9·6	8·7	8·7	12·7	12·7	12·7	9·9	9·5	9·5
	Normal ..	20·0	20·2	20·7	20·2	20·2	21·0	29·4	29·6	29·9	29·6	28·7	28·9
	1891	18·3	18·3	18·9	19·1	19·0	17·8	23·9	23·9	22·7	21·6	20·7	20·7
Dhárápuram ..	1876	19·3	19·3	23·2	19·3	19·8	21·2	24·5	24·5	26·3	24·5	24·5	24·5
	1877	7·2	7·2	9·2	9·2	8·7	8·7	12·3	12·3	12·3	10·5	7·9	7·9
	Normal ..	19·4	18·6	21·1	21·4	21·3	20·7	29 0	28·1	28·0	27·1	27·6	27·3
	1891	15·9	16·9	19·7	20·0	18·6	18·3	20·6	19·7	20·3	19·6	19·3	17·8

II.

Statement showing the prices of staple food-grains in the affected districts during 1891 and 1892, &c.—*cont.*

Districts and taluks.	Years.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee during the second six months.											
		July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
NELLORE.		*Cholum.*						*Ragi.*					
District average.	1876	26·7	24·8	23·8	17·6	12·0	8·7	29·3	26·3	24·9	18·8	13·3	8·8
	1877	8·0	6·4	6·8	7·2	7·5	8·9	8·5	7·1	6·9	8·0	8·7	9·2
	Normal ..	26·1	25·7	25·3	25·3	25·4	25·3	30·2	29·9	29·4	29·1	29·2	29·1
	1891	21·3	20·7	19·7	19·6	18·6	14·0	23·2	22·1	20·5	20·5	20·0	15·0
Ongole ..	1876	25·2	25·2	26·7	20·8	13·6	9·1	31·6	31·6	31·6	24·5	17·7	8·8
	1877	7·9	6·0	7·3	6·9	8·3	9·8	8·4	6·5	6·4	8·3	8·7	10·2
	Normal ..	23·7	23·5	23·5	23·5	24·1	23·3	29·2	29·2	28·5	27·5	26·9	26·0
	1891	20·1	19·8	19·4	18·9	17·8	12·4	24·7	..	..	..	..	..
Darsi	1876	26·9	25·2	24·5	22·3	..	..	31·5	27·5	25·4	21·4	14·9	10·8
	1877	7·9	6·8	7·2	8·2	8·2	8·6	8·2	6·8	7·3	..	8·2	..
	Normal ..	24·3	24·6	23·6	23·7	24·4	24·9	26·4	26·9	26·2	25·7	25·9	26·6
	1891	21·7	21·7	21·7	21·7	21·3	16·6	23·8	23·8	22·7	22·1	21·9	17·5
Podili	1876	28·4	26·2	23·5	18·5	13·4	9·7	32·5	29·1	25·7	20·1	13·0	9·1
	1877	8·4	6·7	7·9	8·4	..	7·2	9·6	6·4	7·5	8·6	..	6·8
	Normal ..	25·8	25·4	25·2	25·1	25·9	25·6	29·5	29·5	29·0	27·9	29·3	29·7
	1891	22·6	22·0	21·7	21·7	20·8	16·1	27·2	26·0	23·9	23·8	22·8	17·5
Kanigiri ..	1876	26·9	26 9	23·5	19·3	14·3	10·1	31·6	26·9	23·7	20·5	14·6	9·5
	1877	7·7	6·5	7·0	7·2	7·7	8·6	8·2	6·7	6·8	8·0	8·0	8·2
	Normal ..	27·2	26·6	26·3	25·6	25·6	26·2	30·9	30·9	30·1	30·0	30·4	30·5
	1891	26·4	27·1	24·9	26·2	24·2	18·4	27·7	28·3	25·3	27·0	24·5	17·8
Udayagiri ..	1876	23·9	22·6	21·3	16·6	10·9	8·8	27·2	24·7	23·0	15·8	11·2	9·0
	1877	..	..	..	..	..	..	6·7	6·4	6·6	6·4	6·5	7·9
	Normal ..	25·0	24·7	24·5	24·2	24·0	23·7	29·3	29·2	29·0	28·6	28·5	27·3
	1891	24·4	22·9	20·6	21·1	21·4	18·8	27·2	25·9	24·1	24·2	24·0	19·5
Atmakuru ..	1876	26·9	25·9	25·0	17·3	10·6	8·6	30·9	27·3	25·5	18·2	10·9	9·1
	1877	8·6	6·7	..	..	..	..	..	7 3	..	..	..	..
	Normal ..	26·9	26·9	26·6	26·5	26·5	25·9	30·4	30·4	30·0	28·2	28·4	27·8
	1891	24·4	22·0	21·7	20·8	20·1	16·2	24·7	23·7	22·9	23·0	21·8	17·2
Rapur ..	1876	26·9	22·3	20·2	15·3	10·2	7·6	28·4	24·2	22·1	18·8	10·7	7·9
	1877	6·9	..	5·8	5·8	5·8	7·7	7·2	..	7·3	7·5	8·2	9·1
	Normal ..	24·9	24·8	24·6	24·6	24·0	24·3	28·2	28·2	28·2	28·6	28·6	28·0
	1891	16·8	16·6	15·7	15·4	15·2	12·0	20·2	19·0	18·6	17·5	17·4	13·0
Nellore ..	1876	26·9	22·3	21·4	14·6	10·1	7·4	26·8	23·4	22·5	16·6	10·0	7·1
	1877	7·9	3·8	6·7	7·4	7·0	9·1	8·2	6·8	6·8	7·7	8·4	9·8
	Normal ..	23·5	23·1	22·9	22·8	22·9	22·7	27·5	27·5	27·8	25·9	26·3	23·8
	1891	20·0	18·8	17·7	17·0	15·5	11·8	21·1	19·6	18·3	17·3	16·3	12·2
Gudur ..	1876	26 9	26·9	23·6	..	..	..	25·5	25·5	22·0	..	..	..
	1877	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal ..	21·6	21·6	21·6	21·6	21·6	21·6	25·5	25·6	25·5	25·5	25·5	25·5
	1891	19·5	19·0	17 6	17·4	15·9	13·0	20·2	19·4	17·5	16·8	16·0	13·4
Venkatagiri ..	1876	24·7	20·2	20·2	13·9	10·2	7·0	25·2	22·1	20·5	16·2	10·7	8·4
	1877	7·9	6·2	6·2	..	..	..	8·4	7·1	7·1	8·9	9·6	10·7
	Normal ..	21·4	22·1	22·1	23·8	22·7	21·6	31·6	30·1	30·6	30·3	29·4	28·2
	1891	19·0	19·0	18·1	19·1	14 8	11·8	21·2	19·4	18·2	17·4	17·1	13·3
CHINGLEPUT.		*Rice.*						*Ragi.*					
District average.	1876	15·4	14·1	13·9	11·6	9·8	7·9	20·5	21·0	20·1	17·0	13·4	9·4
	1877	6·5	6·0	6·2	8·4	9·3	8·8	7·8	6·5	8·3	11·8	12·0	11·3
	Normal ..	15·7	15·4	15·4	15·2	15·3	15·4	26·0	26·1	26·4	27·5	27·9	27·7
	1891	10·3	10·2	10·1	10·1	10·1	9·6	17·7	17·7	15·6	15·9	14·8	12·0
Ponnéri ..	1876	15·1	14·3	14·2	12·5	8·3	8·0	19·2	19·2	19·2	17·1	11·7	9·4
	1877	7·4	6·9	6·6	8 7	9·5	9·7	9·3	7·4	7·8	11·0	12·3	11·0
	Normal ..	17·1	16·5	16·5	16·1	15·5	15·3	26·9	26·6	26·4	28·1	27·9	26·4
	1891	10·8	10·6	10·4	10·2	10·4	9·9	17·4	17·1	15·1	14·4	14·3	11·9
Tiruvallúr ..	1876	12·8	12·8	12·3	10·6	8·3	8·0	18·3	18·8	19·9	16·1	11·0	9·6
	1877	7·2	6·8	6·4	8·7	9·4	9·8	8·2	7·2	8·2	11·5	13·0	11·0
	Normal ..	15·0	14·6	14·6	14·4	14·2	14·5	28·2	26·6	26·4	28·9	28·4	29·0
	1891	10·4	10·2	10·0	9·7	10·4	9·5	17·3	16·4	15·8	14·4	15·2	12·1
Saidapet ..	1876	11·7	12·8	12·5	10·6	8·5	8·1	19·9	20·2	17·8	14·9	10·6	8·9
	1877	6·8	6·7	6·4	8·5	8·9	9·1	8·2	7·4	7·7	11·3	11·5	10·8
	Normal ..	14·3	14·7	14·2	13·9	13·6	14·5	24·8	24·8	24·7	25·2	25·5	26·3
	1891	10·3	10·6	10·4	10 2	10·4	9·4	19·2	18·8	17 3	16·2	16·9	12 1
Conjeeveram ..	1876	16·0	16·0	15·5	14·1	10·3	9·8	22·7	22·7	21·8	20·1	14·5	11·4
	1877	5·9	6·1	6·1	7·5	8·9	9·0	6·8	6·4	6·4	10·7	11·1	10·3
	Normal ..	14·8	14·5	14·5	15·1	15·3	15·5	25·8	26·0	25·9	26·7	27·9	27·4
	1891	10·3	10·0	10·0	9·8	10·0	9·4	18·0	18·8	16·2	17·1	15·4	12·0
Chingleput ..	1876	14 4	14·0	14·0	12·3	9·6	9·0	22·3	22·3	20·7	19·1	12·7	10·7
	1877	6·1	6·6	6·6	9·2	8·8	9·2	6·6	7·2	9·5	14·3	13·5	12·7
	Normal ..	15·5	15·4	15·5	15·4	15·1	15·0	24·2	24·5	24·6	25·1	26·1	25·2
	1891	10·5	10·1	10·1	10·1	10·1	9·7	17·0	17·5	15·6	16·1	15·0	12·1
Madurántakam.	1876	15·3	15·3	14·9	11·4	10·5	7·4	22·3	22·3	22·3	19·1	12·7	9·5
	1877	6·6	6·1	6·1	7·9	7·9	7·9	8·0	7·2	7·2	14·3	14·3	14·3
	Normal ..	16·6	16·0	16·0	16·0	16·0	15·7	25·0	24·6	24·6	26·8	27·4	26·4
	1891	11·2	10·3	10·3	10·3	10·4	10·3	17·1	17·1	15·9	16·1	15·7	12·5

II.

Statement showing the prices of staple food-grains in the affected districts during 1891 and 1892, &c.—*cont.*

Districts and taluks.	Years.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee during the second six months.											
		July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
		Rice.						*Ragi.*					
MADRAS ..	1876	11·7	11·8	11·2	9·7	8·4	7·1	19·9	19·9	17·6	13·2	10·7	8·1
	1877	7·2	6·5	6·5	8·0	8·8	8·7	8·4	7·9	7·9	11·4	11·9	11·3
	Normal ..	13·8	13·9	13·7	13·3	13·6	13·5	26·7	26·5	26·5	26·8	26·9	27·1
	1891	11·0	10·5	10·3	10·0	9·8	9·1	19·0	18·9	17·4	16·9	16·0	12·5
NORTH ARCOT.		*Cumbu.*						*Ragi.*					
District average	1876	18·3	18·4	18·2	13·5	11·1	8·6	21·5	19·4	18·3	14·6	11·6	8·7
	1877	6·6	7·1	7·1	9·5	10·4	10·5	7·4	6·9	6·9	9·9	10·0	10·1
	Normal ..	25·2	26·1	28·0	28·4	28·6	27·8	30·9	30·9	30·9	31·9	32·4	31·9
	1891	16·4	15·6	14·1	14·3	13·5	11·2	20·6	19·3	17·3	18·9	17·3	13·1
Kálahasti ..	1876	..	..	..	..	..	..	16·9	18·2	20·0	12·2	13·1	8·6
	1877	5·6	6·7	8·2	11·4	9·8	10·5	7·8	6·7	7·6	13·7	10·2	10·9
	Normal ..	31·5	31·5	33·0	31·9	32·9	30·6	33·9	32·8	35·3	34·8	34·5	33·7
	1891	17·0	15·8	14·9	15·8	14·9	10·9	20·4	18·2	17·3	17·3	16·4	12·7
Polur	1876	19·3	19·3	24·5	17·9	12·3	9·1	20·0	19·1	20·0	14·7	11·8	9·1
	1877	..	8·8	6·5	10·5	11·0	8·8	6·6	6·4	6·0	9·3	9·7	9·5
	Normal ..	27·6	27·1	30·0	31·1	30·4	27·7	27·7	28·3	29·0	30·4	31·3	30·2
	1891	17·2	14·2	14·4	15·2	14·7	14·4	17·8	16·6	16·6	18·4	16·9	13·5
Wandiwash ..	1876	..	..	..	..	..	..	20·0	20·0	20·0	19·7	13·7	10·0
	1877	..	..	..	..	..	..	8·6	..	6·6	11·8	13·7	11·1
	Normal ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26·6	26·9	27·1	27·7	30·0	29·5
	1891	..	..	..	..	..	..	17·3	17·3	15·8	17·3	15·5	13·1
Punganur ..	1876	..	..	..	..	..	..	19·7	17·0	16·0	11·3	10·5	6·9
	1877	..	..	..	..	..	..	7·1	6·5	6·1	10·1	9·2	9·0
	Normal ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39·7	39·8	39·3	41·3	42·8	39·7
	1891	..	..	..	..	..	..	25·3	23·5	20·3	21·4	18·6	12·8
SALEM.		*Cumbu.*						*Ragi.*					
District average	1876	19·6	19·4	19·4	15·9	11·9	8·9	20·7	20·1	18·2	14·6	11·3	8·7
	1877	6·6	6·1	6·2	10·7	13·1	13·4	6·6	6·3	6·3	9·1	9·9	11·0
	Normal ..	25·4	26·4	27·3	29·8	30·1	29·9	30·0	29·8	30·4	32·2	32·3	32·4
	1891	19·5	18·1	16·2	16·6	15·8	13·0	22·6	21·4	17·6	20·0	17·7	13·1
Tiruchengódu ..	1876	17·9	17·1	16·9	16·4	13·5	9·9	19·1	17·5	17·1	15·4	11·9	9·0
	1877	6·8	5·8	6·0	8·6	13·5	13·5	7·3	6·5	6·5	7·7	9·0	9·0
	Normal ..	21·8	22·6	22·4	23·6	24·7	24·8	26·6	25·0	25·7	30·5	27·1	27·9
	1891	18·5	17·8	14·6	14·2	15·4	13·8	19·1	19·8	17·2	17·4	16·6	12·2
Salem ..	1876	20·0	19·7	21·0	16·8	11·9	8·0	21·5	21·0	19·4	15·9	11·4	8·3
	1877	5·1	5·4	5·2	8·1	9·0	9·0	6·3	6·5	6·0	9·3	10·1	9·9
	Normal ..	22·6	22·8	23·7	23·5	26·1	24·6	28·8	28·5	28·3	29·2	29·9	29·8
	1891	20·4	19·5	18·9	18·0	15·9	14·3	21·9	21·0	12·7	19·2	17·3	13·2
Dharmapuri ..	1876	..	..	..	..	..	..	19·0	18·1	14·6	11·3	9·7	7·7
	1877	..	..	..	..	..	..	6·8	6·0	6·3	9·2	9·7	9·7
	Normal ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33·8	31·1	31·6	31·9	31·8	31·2
	1891	..	..	..	..	..	..	24·8	21·7	17·0	21·2	19·0	12·8
Uttankarai ..	1876	18·0	17·3	18·0	15·5	11·5	8·4	21·0	19·5	18·0	14·3	11·3	8·5
	1877	6·5	5·8	5·7	11·5	13·7	11·5	6·8	6·0	5·6	8·9	8·5	9·0
	Normal ..	26·9	26·9	28·0	29·2	29·8	31·7	30·7	30·2	30·6	30·9	30·8	31·3
	1891	20·3	17·8	16·2	16·2	15·0	12·6	21·0	19·3	17·6	20·2	18·2	13·3
COIMBATORE.		*Cholum.*						*Cumbu.*					
District average	1876	19·2	19·0	16·8	15·6	12·2	8·9	20·7	20·9	20·4	18·9	15·2	11·1
	1877	6·8	7·4	7·1	10·4	11·0	11·1	8·0	8·8	7·5	10·2	12·8	19·7
	Normal ..	24·2	23·8	24·2	24·6	25·1	25·4	28·4	28·1	28·5	28·7	29·5	31·2
	1891	17·2	17·9	15·9	16·5	16·2	13·1	18·2	18·4	16·6	16·2	16·7	16·3
Pollàchi ..	1876	18·8	19·6	19·8	18·9	13·6	9·5	21·2	20·7	24·9	22·1	20·9	11·6
	1877	7·2	8·8	9·6	10·4	13·5	12·2	9·2	9·5	10·2	14·5	16·7	23·8
	Normal ..	22·5	22·8	24·8	24·2	24·3	23·1	27·8	27·8	27·4	27·5	29·3	29·3
	1891	16·7	20·1	18·3	18·3	17·9	14·8	..	..	..	..	..	20·7
Udumalpet ..	1876	18·3	20·3	18·6	18·0	10·6	9·2	21·0	21·0	22·8	19·6	17·5	12·3
	1877	8·0	8·4	7·9	9·3	11·0	11·4	9·6	9·8	9·8	10·3	14·7	21·6
	Normal ..	21·7	21·7	21·8	21·6	22·1	22·0	26·1	26·8	26·5	26·3	26·8	27·0
	1891	16·6	17·6	15·8	15·8	16·2	13·6	18·6	19·3	18·7	17·5	18·6	19·1
Coimbatore ..	1876	18·4	19·6	18·3	16·4	12·1	8·4	17·9	19·1	19·1	19·2	15·5	9·5
	1877	7·5	7·3	7·1	12·4	12·6	13·0	..	..	6·4	6·4	17·1	20·2
	Normal ..	21·0	21·1	21·7	22·2	22·5	22·5	23·9	23·9	24·9	23·9	23·5	24·4
	1891	17·7	18·4	16·2	16·6	16·1	12·6	18·1	17·3	17·0	15·6	18·1	16·3
Palládam ..	1876	18·1	19·1	17·4	15·7	12·2	8·7	22·9	25·4	25·4	24·2	18.3	12·7
	1877	6·1	6·5	6·1	8·2	9·1	9·6	9·5	11·5	8·0	10·3	12·7	20·7
	Normal ..	20·2	20·0	20·4	20·7	20·5	19·4	28·5	28·2	28·1	28·6	29·3	30·2
	1891	15·8	17·4	17·0	16·3	15·7	13·0	20·7	21·0	17·2	15·9	16·4	16·6
Dhárápuram ..	1876	18·3	18·3	15·9	13·0	12·5	8·2	23·6	23·6	23·2	19·7	14·4	12·3
	1877	6·3	6·3	5·8	7·1	8·9	8·0	7·9	9·2	7·9	7·9	7·9	16·3
	Normal ..	19·8	19·4	20·5	20·8	20·8	20·0	27·5	28·1	28·6	28·0	27·7	27·7
	1891	16·6	16·4	14·1	15·2	16·0	14·0	18·3	19·3	17·4	15·6	15·4	13·8

II.

Statement showing the prices of staple food-grains in the affected districts during 1891 and 1892, &c.—*cont.*

Districts and taluks.	Years.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee during the second six months—*cont.*											
		July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
COIMBATORE —*cont.*		*Cholum*—cont.						*Cumbu*—cont.					
Erode	1876	17·2	17·4	15·7	15·7	13·9	8·7	18·6	20·7	17·5	15·9	14·3	11·7
	1877	5 3	5·2	6·9	9·1	10·5	..	5·6	7·9	6·8	6 8	11·5	22·3
	Normal	20·1	20·5	20·9	21·4	22·5	21·7	23·3	23·0	23·9	25·0	26·6	26 7
	1891	18·9	17·4	15·3	15·7	15·8	12·2	17·5	17·5	16·7	16·7	15·9	13·5
Bhaváni	1876	18·8	17·3	14·1	12·6	11·8	8·7	17·2	17·2	17·2	15·9	12·9	10·0
	1877	7·9	7·5	6·3	18·8	10·4	10·4	8·6	6·8	5·7	22·9	15·9	17·9
	Normal	23·8	23·2	23·6	24·6	25·2	25·4	22·6	22·9	23·1	25·6	26·3	26·5
	1891	17·4	15·7	15·7	17·4	15·7	12·2	18·3	17·5	14·3	15·9	15·9	13·5
KURNOOL.		*Cholum.*						*Ragi.*					
District average	1876	24·4	21·5	17·7	9·3	7·9	7·0	26·4	23·0	19·7	10·6	8·0	7·5
	1877	6·2	6·0	6·3	8·2	9·5	10·7	6·4	6·0	6·6	8·8	10·5	12·7
	Normal	28·6	29·1	29·2	30·0	31·2	31·0	30 4	30·0	29·2	29·4	30·5	31·0
	1891	26·7	26 1	21·6	21·5	17·1	13·4	27·3	27·4	23·6	21·2	18·9	14·8
Markapur	1876	31·6	25·3	19·0	14·2	11·5	7·9	34·5	28·5	24·0	16·9	10·9	7·5
	1877	8·3	6·7	7·1	8·3	..	10·3	7·9	6·4	7·5	9·0	9·0	9·0
	Normal	27·7	27·7	27·5	27·4	27·4	27·9	28·5	28·2	27·5	26 6	26·6	27 0
	1891	..	..	19·0	19 0	18·6	13·0	24·0	24·4	22·5	21·5	21·5	16·0
Cumbum	1876	23·7	19 0	19·0	9·5	10·3	7·9	27·0	21·0	21·0	9·0	9·7	7·5
	1877	6·7	5·9	6·7	7·9	7·1	7·9	7·5	6·0	6·8	9·0	8·3	10·5
	Normal	26·2	26·3	25·4	26·5	30·4	28·9	27·6	27·0	26·9	27·1	28 9	29·0
	1891	21·3	23·1	19·4	20·5	18·2	13·8	24·0	24·0	20·6	20·6	19 5	13·5
Koilkuntla	1876	22·9	20·5	19·8	13·8	7·1	7·1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6 3	5·9	5·1	6·3	7·1	11·1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	25·6	25·5	25·2	25·2	26·2	27·3	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	28·4	28·4	23·7	23·7	17·8	12·6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ramallakot	1876	21·7	21·9	16·4	7·5	..	7·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	5·8	5·5	5 8	8·2	7·9	10·3	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	27·3	26·4	27·3	26·2	27·4	26·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	25·0	22·6	20 9	19·9	13·7	12·0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pattikonda	1876	27·3	25 2	18·3	9·8	7·7	8·8	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6·9	6·7	7·7	10·3	14·4	12·1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	30·6	30·8	31·9	32·8	33.7	33·7	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	26·3	25·4	19 1	21·6	17·6	14·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
BELLARY.		*Cholum.*											
District average	1876	22·0	20·9	16·2	10·2	7·1	7·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	5 8	5·6	6·1	8·7	10·9	11·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	29·7	30·2	30·8	31·3	32·0	32·3	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	26·4	26·1	22·7	21·9	17·1	14·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Adoni	1876	24·7	23·4	16·0	11·1	7·2	8·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6·4	6·2	6·7	9·8	11·6	11·1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	26 4	25·7	29·1	27·1	31·1	29·1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	23·2	23·4	20·3	19·1	15·7	13·9	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alúr	1876	23·7	21·1	16·7	10·8	6 7	6·9	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	5·7	5·4	5·7	7·0	7·7	8·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	26·3	27·5	28·6	29·9	29·6	29·6	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	27·4	27·6	25·0	22·0	18 6	13·3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bellary	1876	21·6	20·3	15·7	9·3	6·9	7·7	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6·2	5·9	6·2	8·8	7·7	8·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	26·6	27·2	27·5	27·7	28·5	29·3	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	27·9	23·6	20·4	20·9	16·7	13·7	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rayadrug	1876	20·6	18·8	15·5	10·3	6·5	7·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6·2	6 2	7·2	10·3	12·1	15·5	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	28·6	30·3	29·3	29·7	30·9	33·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	25·0	26·8	20·9	21·6	17·8	13·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
ANANTAPUR.		*Cholum.*											
District average	1876	23·2	20·2	14·8	10·6	7·9	7·5	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6·2	6·1	6·5	9·4	10·6	10·3	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	31·1	31·3	31·0	31·7	32·7	32·6	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	27·7	26·0	22·4	21·0	16·6	12·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dharmavaram.	1876	25·2	21·6	16·5	11·3	8·0	7·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6·2	6·2	6·4	10·0	10·3	10·6	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	29·6	28·8	28·8	29·7	30·9	32·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	26·8	26·5	22·3	20·6	18·4	11·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Anantapur	1876	25·5	20·7	16·0	11·5	8·8	8·0	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6·2	6·4	6·7	10·4	11.3	11·1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	27·7	28·1	28·6	31·5	31·6	32·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	25·2	25·2	22·7	20·8	16·9	13·5	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gooty	1876	25·0	23·2	16·0	10·8	7·7	8·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6.2	6·6	6·7	10·0	11 8	11·3	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	26·8	28·9	30·0	30·2	31·4	33·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	25·8	25·8	20·6	20·3	16·0	13·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tadpatri	1876	22·7	22·4	16·5	10·6	8·2	8·0	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	7·0	6·7	6·2	8·5	10·8	12·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	24·9	26·3	26·0	26·1	26·2	27·2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	23·7	23·3	19·3	20·5	15·5	12·6	..	..	..	..	..	..

II.

Statement showing the prices of staple food-grains in the affected districts during 1891 and 1892, &c.—*cont.*

Districts and taluks.	Years.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee during the second six months—*cont.*											
		July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
CUDDAPAH.		*Cholum.*						*Ragi.*					
District average	1876	21·9	20·2	17·1	11·8	8·7	7·2	22·7	21·3	17·2	12·0	9·2	7·4
	1877	6·6	6·3	6·7	9·0	10·4	11·5	6·8	6 4	6·8	9·1	10·4	12·1
	Normal	29·0	28·9	29 0	29·6	30·0	30·4	33 1	32 5	32·5	33·0	33·6	33·9
	1891	23·5	20·7	18·8	17·8	16 4	12·7	25·9	23·1	20·8	19·5	17·9	14·0
Badvel	1876	23·7	22·1	19·8	13·4	8·9	7·1	25·9	24·0	20·6	13·1	9·4	7·7
	1877	6·6	5·9	6·4	8 1	10·1	8·9	7·1	6·2	6·6	8·0	8·7	10·1
	Normal	25·7	25·8	25·2	24·7	25·7	26·3	28·4	28·2	27·9	27·5	27·3	27·0
	1891	22·1	20·7	19·5	18·2	17·4	12·5	24·0	23·6	21·8	21·2	19·1	13·1
Siddhout	1876	20·5	19·0	17·8	13·0	9·1	7·5	24·0	22·5	18·5	14·6	9·0	8·3
	1877	7·0	6·4	6·3	7·5	8 7	9·5	7·6	6·8	6·8	7·5	8·3	9·0
	Normal	23·1	23·1	22·8	23·4	24·0	22·8	29·1	29·1	28·2	28·2	27·3	27·3
	1891	18·2	18·2	17·0	15 8	15·4	12·2	24·0	24·0	21·8	19·5	18·0	14·3
		Cumbu.											
District average	1876	21·1	9·17	17·0	11·6	9·0	7·4	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1877	6·3	6·7	7·6	10·7	12·9	12·8	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal	29·0	28·1	28·4	30·0	31·1	31·0	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1891	18·6	17·3	16·0	16·2	15·9	13·0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ráyachóti	1876	23·2	18·1	15·6	12·0	9·4	8·7	24 0	18·5	16·1	12·8	9·4	7·5
	1877	6·9	6·5	7·3	13·8	17·0	13·9	7·6	6·7	7·1	11·1	14·8	14·4
	Normal	30·9	30·9	30·2	32·0	34·0	34·5	34·4	34·0	33·8	35·2	35·2	36·2
	1891	19·0	17·4	15·2	16·7	17·4	14·5	27·8	21·0	20·3	19·5	19·5	15·0
Kadiri	1876	23·9	22·5	15·2	12·3	8·9	6·5	24·8	23·3	15·8	12·8	9·2	7·1
	1877	5·8	5·7	6·8	11·2	18·1	15·3	6·0	6·2	7·3	11·3	14·4	13·4
	Normal	32·0	32·3	32·2	33·1	33·4	36·8	34·5	34·8	35·3	34·6	37·1	38·3
	1891	23·2	21·8	17·4	15·2	16·0	13·1	31·9	27·0	22·8	18·6	20·0	15·0
Madanapalle	1876	16·7	17·4	13·1	12·0	9·8	6·5	18·8	18·8	13·1	11·3	10·1	6·8
	1877	6·2	6·2	6·2	10·2	14·5	14·5	6·0	6·0	6·4	10·1	12·0	12·0
	Normal	31·3	30·7	31·3	34·1	36·5	34·7	40·9	40·8	40·6	44·6	45·4	44·2
	1891	17·6	14·9	13·9	14·5	13·4	12·5	27·9	23·4	22·1	21·0	18·4	13·1
Vayalpad	1876	16·0	16·7	13·1	8·0	10·2	5·4	16·5	17·6	13·5	8·3	9·8	6·0
	1877	5·1	..	6·5	10·2	14·5	13·1	6·0	5·6	6·4	9·0	10·5	9·7
	Normal	32·2	29·8	31·3	32·6	32·6	34·2	40·0	37·2	39·0	39·8	40·4	38·4
	1891	16·6	13·5	13·5	14·2	15·1	13·2	25·4	21·6	19·7	19·1	18·4	14·4

II.

Statement showing the prices of staple food-grains in the affected districts during 1891 and 1892, &c.—*cont.*

Districts and stations.	Years.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee during the last nine months. January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
NELLORE.						*Cholum.*				
District average	1877	8·0	8·9	9·4	9·4	9·2	9·4	8·0	6·4	6·8
	Normal	25·4	25·6	25·7	26·2	26·1	26·1	26·1	25·7	25·3
	1892	13·0	12·8	13·3	13·5	13·5	13·4	13·9	14·5	16·7
Ongole	1877	8·6	10·1	11·1	11·3	10·4	10·5	7·9	6·0	7·3
	Normal	23·5	22·2	22·8	24·0	23·6	23·5	23·7	23·5	23·5
	1892	12·7	14·2	14·4	14·4	14·4	14·4	14·4	15·1	21·6
Darsi	1877	7·7	10·1	9·4	9·4	9·6	9·8	7·9	6·8	7·2
	Normal	24·5	24·2	24·2	25·6	25·5	25·1	24·3	24·6	23·6
	1892	14·0	13·6	13·6	13·6	13·6	13·6	13·6	13·6	14·5
Podili	1877	8·4	9·7	8·4	8·4	8·4	9·7	8·4	6·7	7·9
	Normal	25·9	25·0	24·2	25·1	25·5	26·1	25·8	25·4	25·2
	1892	13·8	13·3	13·1	12·7	12·7	12·7	12·7	14·1	17·2
Kanigiri	1877	10·1	9·3	8·4	8·4	8·4	8·4	7·7	6·5	7·0
	Normal	26·5	26·8	26·5	28·3	27·6	26·6	27·2	26·6	26·3
	1892	15·3	13·7	14·5	13·5	12·7	12·7	12·7	12·7	15·7
Udayagiri	1877	6·7	7·0	8·0	8·4	8·0	8·2	..	..	..
	Normal	23·6	23·5	23·6	24·2	24·5	24·9	25·0	24·7	24·5
	1892	12·7	12·7	13·3	14·4	14·5	14·5	15·0	15·4	15·4
Atmakúru	1877	7·7	7·7	7·7	9·1	9·6	9·6	8·6	6·7	..
	N·rmal	26·3	26·5	26·8	27·1	27·1	27·1	26·9	26·9	26·6
	1892	14·5	14·5	14·1	13·6	13·6	14·0	14·8	15·4	17·5
						Ragi.				
District average	1877	8·1	9·2	10·6	11·2	10·7	10·6	8·5	7·1	7·0
	Normal	29·1	29·0	29·1	29·7	30·0	29·8	30·2	29·9	29·4
	1892	13·6	13·8	14·0	14·4	14·5	14·4	15·3	16·0	17·3
Ongole	1877	10·0	10·7	13·4	12·6	11·4	12·6	8·4	6·5	6·4
	Normal	26·1	26·8	27·3	28·5	30·0	30·0	29·2	29·2	28·5
	1892	..	17·0	17·0	17·0	17·0	17·0	17·0	17·0	17·0
Darsi	1877	8·1	10·4	11·8	11·0	11·3	11·4	8·2	6·8	7·3
	Normal	26·1	25·6	25·3	27·2	27·1	27·1	26·4	26·9	26·2
	1892	14·2	13·6	13·6	13·6	13·6	13·6	14·5	15·3	16·0
Podili	1877	7·9	11·1	11·1	11·9	11·9	10·7	9·6	6·4	7·5
	Normal	29·0	28·2	27·7	29·5	29·3	28·6	29·5	29·5	29·0
	1892	13·7	13·6	13·6	13·6	13·6	13·6	13·6	14·5	18·7
Kanigiri	1877	9·0	9·2	9·5	10·3	10·3	10·3	8·2	6·7	6·8
	Normal	30·1	29·9	29·5	31·4	30·1	30·6	30·9	30·9	30·1
	1892	13·6	13·7	14·9	14·0	15·1	13·6	13·6	13·6	16·5
Udayagiri	1877	7·1	7·6	9·1	10·1	9·5	8·6	6·7	6·4	6·6
	Normal	26·7	26·5	26·4	28·5	29·9	29·7	29·3	29·2	29·0
	1892	14·1	15·1	15·3	15·3	15·3	16·2	17·4	17·0	18·5
Atmakuru	1877	8·2	8·2	8·2	9·6	10·0	10·0	..	7·3	..
	Normal	28·5	28·3	28·6	30·4	30·4	30·4	30·4	30·4	30·0
	1892	15·5	15·3	14·5	13·6	13·6	14·3	16·6	17·3	19·9
KURNOOL.						*Cholum.*				
District average	1877	7·1	8·1	8·6	8·3	7·3	7·0	6·2	6·0	6·4
	Normal	30·6	30·1	29·6	29·8	29·1	28·6	28·6	29·1	29·2
	1892	13·9	14·5	14·6	14·9	14·9	14·4	16·3	16·7	19·2
Márkápur	1877	7·9	7·9	8·7	9·1	9·1	9·1	8·3	6·7	7·1
	Normal	29·0	28·4	27·9	27·7	26·2	27·7	27·7	27·7	27·5
	1892	12·8	12·8	12·8	14·5	15·7	13·8	14·2	14·6	17·4
Cumbum	1877	7·5	8·3	7·9	8·3	7·9	7·9	6·7	5·9	6·7
	Normal	26·7	26·9	27·0	26·1	25·8	24·1	26·2	26·3	25·4
	1892	12·6	12·6	12·6	12·6	12·6	13·4	14·6	15·7	18·0
Koilkuntla	1877	7·1	7·5	8·7	8·3	7·1	7·1	6·3	5·9	5·1
	Normal	27·3	28·7	29·1	27·2	26·9	26·5	25·6	25·5	25·2
	1892	12·6	14·2	14·2	14·2	13·4	13·4	16·2	17·4	20·1
Ramallakot	1877	6·9	8·2	8·2	7·8	7·5	6·5	4·6	6·5	6·2
	Normal	26·6	26·7	28·0	28·2	25·2	26·7	27·3	26·4	27·3
	1892	14·4	15·1	15·1	15·8	15·6	15·1	15·4	16·4	19·9
Pattikonda	1877	8·8	8·7	9·5	8·8	8·2	7·7	6·9	6·7	7·7
	Normal	31·3	31·8	31·0	29·5	27·0	28·0	30·6	30·8	31·9
	1892	14·7	15·1	15·5	15·2	16·0	15·3	16·9	17·8	19·8
						Ragi.				
District average	1877	7·7	8·5	8·6	9·1	8·0	7·4	6·4	5·8	6·6
	Normal	31·1	31·4	30·9	30·2	30·5	31·1	30·4	30·0	29·2
	1892	13·1	13·6	14·5	14·5	15·2	15·1	15·7	15·5	17·4
Márkápur	1877	7·5	7·5	9·0	9·0	10·5	10·5	7·9	6·4	7·5
	Normal	27·0	26·4	26·1	28·2	27·9	28·5	28·5	28·2	27·5
	1892	12·8	12·8	12·7	13·6	15·9	14·6	15·2	15·0	17·6
Cumbum	1877	7·5	9·8	9·0	9·0	9·0	9·0	7·5	6·0	6·8
	Normal	28·1	27·9	27·6	27·8	26·1	27·6	27·6	27·0	26·9
	1892	12·0	12·4	12·8	13·5	13·5	14·3	15·0	16·5	17·6

II.

Statement showing the prices of staple food grains in the affected districts during 1891 and 1892, &c.—*cont.*

Districts and stations.	Years.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee during the last nine months—*cont.* January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
BELLARY.						*Cholum.*				
	1877	7·7	8·1	8·8	8·3	7·5	6·5	5·8	5·6	6·1
District average ..	Normal	32·1	31·7	31·0	31·5	31·0	29·9	29·6	30·2	30·7
	1892	14·4	15·3	15·2	15·3	15·3	14·9	16·3	19·2	22·9
	1877	8·2	8·8	10·1	9·3	8·2	7·5	6·4	6·2	6·7
Adóni	Normal	28·0	29·5	26·3	26·4	25·5	26·0	26·4	25·7	29·1
	1892	14·4	14·9	15·2	14·4	14·9	14·3	16·5	16·7	18·0
	1877	7·2	7 7	8·8	8·9	7·7	7·0	5·7	5·4	5·7
Alúr	Normal	27·3	28·5	30·0	27·8	28·3	27·5	26·3	27·5	28·6
	1892	13·4	14·9	15·3	14·3	14·7	14·1	15·1	16·2	19·2
	1877	8·2	8·5	9·3	9·0	8·2	7·5	6·2	5·9	6·2
Bellary	Normal	28·7	28·3	27·6	28·3	28·5	27·6	26·6	27·2	27·5
	1892	14·7	15·4	15·2	14·7	15·4	14·2	15·1	17·4	21·1
	1877	7·2	8·2	9·3	7·7	8·2	6·4	6·2	6·2	7·2
Rayadrug	Normal	32·7	32·9	31·6	30·9	29·3	28·6	28·6	30·3	29·3
	1892	14·6	14·7	15·2	16·2	15·2	15·5	16·4	19·2	23·0
ANANTAPUR.						*Cholum.*				
	1877	7·8	8·7	9·5	9·0	7·9	7·2	6·2	6·1	6·6
District average ..	Normal	32·4	31·7	31·5	32·4	33·0	32·2	31·1	31·1	31·2
	1892	13·6	14·2	14·8	15·2	16·1	15·7	18·5	19·5	20·8
	1877	7·0	8·2	10·6	9·3	8·0	7·2	6·2	6·2	6·4
Dharmâvaram	Normal	31·7	30·9	30·2	28·9	30·6	29·2	29·6	28·8	28·8
	1892	12·6	13·9	14·1	14·9	16·5	15·8	18·3	19·2	20·2
	1877	8·0	9·5	9·5	9·3	8·2	7·7	6·2	6·4	6·7
Anantapur	Normal	32·8	30·7	31·1	28·7	28·7	28·3	27·7	28·1	28·6
	1892	13·4	13·9	13·9	13·8	15·8	14·9	17·0	16·9	17·5
	1877	8·2	9·0	9·5	9·0	8·2	7·2	6·2	6·7	6·7
Gooty	Normal	32·9	31·7	31·4	27·5	27·8	26·5	26·8	28·9	30·0
	1892	13·4	13·9	14·8	14·2	13·7	13·7	15·7	16·7	19·6
	1877	8·2	8·8	9·8	9·3	8·5	8·0	7·0	6·7	6·2
Tadpatri	Normal	28·0	27·6	27·6	25·9	26·5	26·3	24·9	26·3	26·0
	1892	14·5	14·4	15·5	13·4	14·4	14·4	16·2	19·6	18·2
CUDDAPAH.						*Cholum.*				
	1877	6·0	8·5	9·5	9·3	8·6	8·3	6·6	6·3	6·7
District average ..	Normal	30·5	30·6	30·1	29·9	30·3	30·2	29·0	28·9	29·0
	1892	12·9	13·3	13·6	13·6	14·1	14·0	14·6	15·8	17·0
	1877	6·7	8·5	10·0	9·5	8·5	8·5	6·6	5·9	6·4
Bádvél	Normal	25·8	25·3	25·8	25·6	25·8	25·8	25·7	25·8	25·2
	1892	12·4	13·3	12·8	12·9	13·2	13·0	13·6	15·0	15·4
	1877	7·9	9·1	10·7	9·5	9·1	9·1	7·0	6·4	6·3
Sidhout	Normal	22·1	22·2	22·8	22·9	22·4	23·2	23·1	23·1	22·8
	1892	11·9	12·6	12·6	12·6	12·6	12·6	13·4	14·2	15·8
						Cumbu.				
	1877	7·4	7·7	8·2	8·4	8·0	7·6	6·3	6·7	7·6
District average ..	Normal	30·3	30·2	29·7	29·8	29·8	29·5	29·0	28·1	28·4
	1892	12·6	12·7	12·4	12·4	12·6	12·5	13·1	13·5	15·7
	1877	6·9	7·6	8·8	8·8	8·5	8·0	6·9	6·5	7·3
Ráyachóti	Normal	34·3	33·4	33·1	30·3	31·6	30·8	30·9	30·9	30·2
	1892	13·1	13·4	13·4	13·4	14·5	14·5	14·5	14·5	17·4
	1877	6·2	6·5	8·0	8·7	7·1	7·1	5·8	5·7	6·8
Kadiri	Normal	35·8	33·9	33·5	32·3	31·7	31·3	32·0	32·3	32·2
	1892	14·1	13·1	13·1	13·1	13·1	13·1	15·2	15·1	17·0
	1877	6·5	6·2	6·2	7·3	7·3	6·2	6·2	6·2	6·2
Madanapalle	Normal	34·6	32·5	32·7	32·0	31·6	30·7	31·3	30·7	31·3
	1892	11·6	11·2	11·6	11·6	11·6	11·6	11·6	12·0	14·0
	1877	6·5	6·5	8·0	8·0	7·6	6·4	5·1	..	6·5
Vayalpad	Normal	31·9	31·1	30·0	30·9	32·2	33·3	32·2	29·8	31·3
	1892	12·4	12·0	10·9	12·3	12·3	12·2	12·2	12·2	12·7

II.

Statement showing the prices of staple food-grains in the affected districts during 1891 and 1892, &c.—*cont.*

Districts and stations.	Years.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
		Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee during the last nine months—*cont.*								
CUDDAPAH—*cont.*						*Ragi.*				
District average ..	1877	7·6	9·0	10·0	9·9	8·6	8·6	6·8	6·4	6·8
	Normal	33·7	33·5	33·6	34·0	34·3	33·9	33·1	32·5	32·5
	1892	14 1	14·6	14·8	15·6	16·3	16·3	17·7	19·0	20·0
Bádvél	1877	7·3	8·3	9·1	9·4	8·4	8·6	7·1	6·2	6·6
	Normal	26·8	26·4	27·3	27·5	28·9	28·5	28·4	28·2	27·9
	1892	13·3	14·3	13·5	13·5	14·3	15·8	17·3	18·0	17·6
Sidhout	1877	7·9	9·4	11·3	11·3	9·4	9·5	7·6	6·8	6·8
	Normal	27·3	27·3	27·0	28·3	29·1	29·1	29·1	29·1	28·2
	1892	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	15·0	15·0	16·5	18·8	18·8
Ráyachóti	1877	7·1	8·6	10·7	10·7	9·1	9·1	7·6	6·8	7·1
	Normal	35·1	35·0	34·8	34·9	34·7	34·5	34·4	34·0	33·8
	1892	15·0	14·3	14·3	15·4	15·8	15·2	17·3	18·4	20·0
Kadiri	1877	6·6	7·5	8·3	9·0	7·3	7·4	6·0	6·2	7·3
	Normal	37·2	35·3	35·7	35·0	34·8	34·5	34·5	34·8	35·3
	1892	14·9	14·6	15·8	15·8	16·5	16·5	16·6	17·6	21·0
Madanapalle	1877	8·3	8·3	9·0	9·0	7·5	6·8	6·0	6·0	6·4
	Normal	42·9	41·6	41·4	39·6	41·3	41·3	40·9	40·8	40·6
	1892	13·9	14·3	15·0	17·3	17·3	17·3	18·9	22·5	23·2
Vayalpad	1877	6·8	7·9	9·1	9·5	8·3	7·8	6·0	5·6	6·4
	Normal	40·0	38·8	40·0	39·8	41·6	40·0	40·0	37·2	39·0
	1892	13·5	13·8	13·8	15·8	15·8	16·5	16·8	18·8	18·8
NORTH ARCOT.						*Ragi.*				
District average ..	1877	8·5	9·4	9·7	10·8	9·8	9·1	7·4	6·9	6·9
	Normal	32·4	31·9	31·6	31·5	32·2	31·6	30·9	30·9	30·9
	1892	13·2	13·0	13·4	14·2	15·2	15·3	16·3	17·6	19·0
Punganúru	1877	7·7	8·2	8·2	9·7	8·4	7·3	7·1	6·5	6·1
	Normal	40·5	41·0	40·4	40·3	41·0	40.7	39·7	39·8	39·3
	1892	13·4	13.4	13·4	15·1	15·1	16·8	19·0	20·2	22·7
SALEM.						*Cumbu.*				
District average ..	1877	8·1	8·8	8·2	8·6	7·8	7·6	6·5	6·0	6·2
	Normal	28·8	28·3	26·9	26·3	26·3	25·9	25·4	26·5	27·3
	1892	13·0	13·2	13·2	13·0	12·7	12·7	15·1	19·5	21·3
Tiruchengódu	1877	9·4	10·1	9·4	9·4	8·6	8·1	6·8	5·8	6·0
	Normal	24·0	22·9	23·7	21·4	21·1	25·3	21·8	22·6	22·4
	1892	13·2	14·0	13·1	13·0	12·2	12·2	19·0	20·2	21·2
						Ragi.				
District average ..	1877	8·4	9·4	9·0	9·0	8·5	8·3	6·6	6·2	6·3
	Normal	31·8	31·4	31·4	32·0	32·3	31·6	30·0	29·8	30·4
	1892	13·6	14·0	14·6	15·0	15·9	16·1	17·8	19·5	20·9
Tiruchengódu	1877	8·2	9·8	9·6	9·8	9·8	9·8	7·3	6·5	6·5
	Normal	26·8	26·1	26·6	27·8	27·3	27·0	26·6	25·0	25·7
	1892	12·1	11·8	11·8	12·6	12·6	12·9	15·2	17·6	19·6
COIMBATORE.						*Cholum.*				
District average ..	1877	9·2	9·9	10·3	9·6	9·0	8·6	6·8	7·4	7·1
	Normal	25·1	25·1	25·4	26·0	25·7	25·1	24·2	23·8	24·2
	1892	13·6	14·7	15·0	14·6	14·5	14·3	13·5	16·0	16·7
Bhaváni	1877	9·0	9·4	9·4	9·3	8·2	7·9	7·9	7·5	6·3
	Normal	25·6	26·5	25·5	24·9	25·1	24·5	23·8	23·2	23·6
	1892	12·2	12·2	12·2	12·2	10·6	13·1	13·9	13·9	13·9
						Cumbu.				
District average ..	1877	11·4	10·8	10·7	10·2	9·3	8·7	8·1	8·5	7·5
	Normal	31·5	31·0	30·5	30·1	28·9	29·1	28·4	28·1	28·6
	1892	17·1	17·5	16·4	15·7	15·7	15·5	15·3	17·7	19·3
Bhaváni	1877	10·0	10·0	10·0	8·9	8·6	8·6	8·6	6·8	5·7
	Normal	25·7	25·1	24·7	24·0	23·6	23·1	22·6	22·9	23·1
	1892	15·9	15·9	15·6	15·1	14 3	12·7	15·9	19·1	19·1

III.

Statement showing the average total numbers of persons relieved in the Presidency during each month of 1891 and 1892.

Districts.	1891.										
	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
On works.											
Tinnevelly ..	..	253	1,639	1,342	768	729	524	..	..	..	..
Coimbatore ..	..	240	370	208	423	1,620	3,313	6,912	4,298	3,986	2,885
Salem	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,393	4,167	3,821
North Arcot ..	155	1,736	3,312	6,367	7,208	6,571	8,499	10,248	10,408	5,287	2,856
Chingleput ..	928	4,449	4,662	6,812	8,055	7,157	7,515	7,289	7,899	5,747	3,571
Nellore	..	..	..	..	..	398	2,502	3,885	3,916	1,030	1,153
Cuddapah ..	..	..	..	170	325	159	397	1,385	744	259	..
Kurnool	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,351	2,179
Bellary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,839
Anantapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	394
Total ..	1,083	6,678	9,983	14,899	16,779	16,634	22,750	29,719	34,658	21,827	18,698
Gratuitously.											
Coimbatore ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	465	875	782	401
Salem	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	182	239	308
North Arcot ..	..	26	760	1,102	1,355	1,794	2,994	4,374	3,339	2,197	1,455
Chingleput ..	..	..	..	122	208	540	1,752	2,107	1,950	905	133
Cuddapah ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	14	4	..	..
Kurnool	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	67
Total ..	..	26	760	1,224	1,563	2,334	4,753	6,960	6,350	4,123	2,364
Grand Total ..	1,083	6,704	10,743	16,123	18,342	18,968	27,503	36,679	41,008	25,950	21,062

Districts.	1892.								
	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
On works.									
Coimbatore ..	..	..	..	542	704	647	278	..	..
Salem	4,473	4,543	2,679	4,979	5,887	6,652	4,273	695	..
North Arcot ..	736	87	161	690	1,514	1,798	471	..	..
Chingleput ..	236	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nellore	5,841	3,753	5,688	6,644	11,107	22,744	16,723	2,846	..
Cuddapah ..	2,997	3,513	5,094	9,095	11,959	11,402	5,680	2,383	257
Kurnool ..	6,956	13,020	20,263	24,421	28,647	25,100	17,094	10,141	2,339
Bellary	5,586	6,035	7,297	9,138	12,806	18,010	10,730	5,429	601
Anantapur ..	515	487	910	1,159	1,211	1,234	141	..	..
Total ..	27,340	31,438	42,092	56,668	73,835	87,587	55,390	21,494	3,197
Gratuitously.									
Coimbatore ..	63	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salem	292	250	234	211	204	173	112	58	..
North Arcot ..	356	..	30	60	52	45	17	..	..
Nellore	..	..	..	..	95	111	175	122	7
Cuddapah ..	..	..	6	16	73	81	55	2	..
Kurnool ..	332	412	438	454	487	582	449	335	123
Bellary	..	..	37	29	29	42	45	31	..
Anantapur ..	278	571	240	146	131	60	20	..	..
Total ..	1,321	1,233	985	916	1,071	1,094	873	548	130
Grand Total ..	28,661	32,671	43,077	57,584	74,906	88,681	56,263	22,042	3,327

III-A.

STATEMENT showing the average number of persons relieved on works in each district during each month of the years 1891 and 1892.

Months.	Tinnevelly.	Coimbatore.							
		Pollâchi.	Erode.	Coimbatore.	Palladam.	Dhârâpuram.	Udamalpet.	Bhavâni.	Total.
March 1891	253	240	..	..	..	..	..	..	240
April ,, ...	1,639	370	..	..	..	..	..	..	370
May ,, ...	1,342	208	..	..	..	..	..	..	208
June ,, ...	768	423	..	..	..	..	..	..	423
July ,, ...	729	646	..	589	213	172	..	..	1,620
August ,, ...	524	1,021	..	290	609	1,374	19	..	3,313
September ,, ...	..	528	320	56	1,909	3,197	902	..	6,912
October ,, ...	..	501	522	..	942	1,091	778	464	4,298
November ,, ...	..	265	280	..	1,235	819	739	648	3,986
December ,, ...	..	70	183	..	699	923	445	565	2,885
January 1892	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
February ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
March ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
April ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	542	542
May ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	704	704
June ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	647	647
July ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	278	278

Months.	Salem.					North Arcot.				
	Tiruchengôd.	Salem.	Dharmapuri.	Uttangiri.	Total.	Kâlahasti.	Pólúr.	Wandiwash.	Punganúru.	Total.
February 1891	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	155	..	155
March ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	352	..	1,384	..	1,736
April ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	935	..	2,377	..	3,312
May ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	2,039	..	4,328	..	6,367
June ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	2,151	..	5,057	..	7,208
July ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	1,612	..	4,959	..	6,571
August ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	3,270	..	5,229	..	8,499
September ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	4,398	270	5,580	..	10,248
October ,, ...	5,004	1,307	471	611	7,393	4,111	2,003	4,294	..	10,408
November ,, ...	3,447	533	187	..	4,167	3,004	1,512	771	..	5,287
December ,, ...	3,821	..	..	..	3,821	1,831	654	371	..	2,856
January 1892	4,473	..	..	..	4,473	515	58	163	..	736
February ,, ...	4,543	..	..	..	4,543	..	..	..	87	87
March ,, ...	2,679	..	..	..	2,679	..	..	..	161	161
April ,, ...	4,979	..	..	..	4,979	..	..	..	690	690
May ,, ...	5,887	..	..	..	5,887	..	..	..	1,514	1,514
June ,, ...	6,652	..	..	..	6,652	..	..	..	1,798	1,798
July ,, ...	4,273	..	..	..	4,273	..	..	..	471	471
August ,, ...	695	..	..	..	695	..	..	..	..	..

Months.	Chingleput.							Nellore.	
	Madurántakam.	Conjeeveram.	Chingleput.	Saidápet.	Tiruvallúr.	Ponnéri.	Total.	Pólúr.	Venkatagiri.
February 1891	..	..	..	76	185	667	928	..	..
March ,, ...	352	518	649	413	1,193	1,324	4,449	..	..
April ,, ...	715	418	1,152	148	1,164	1,065	4,662	..	..
May ,, ...	1,198	768	1,341	898	726	1,492	* 6,812	..	..
June ,, ...	1,191	460	2,236	675	1,810	1,683	8,055	..	..
July ,, ...	1,153	626	1,966	466	1,512	1,434	7,157	63	..
August ,, ...	1,285	1,252	1,853	407	626	2,092	7,515	427	27
September ,, ...	1,419	803	1,508	688	1,763	1,108	7,289	664	64
October ,, ...	1,200	1,408	2,066	903	1,275	1,047	7,899	589	38
November ,, ...	975	898	1,083	492	1,094	1,205	5,747	..	16
December ,, ...	472	794	659	252	623	771	3,571	..	..
January 1892	20	37	30	4	9	126	236	..	..

* This includes 389 coolies employed in Local Fund works for which no tálukwar details are available.

III-A.

Statement showing the average number of persons relieved on works in each district during each month of the years 1891 and 1892—*cont.*

Months.	Nellore—*cont.*								
	Gúdúr.	Nellore.	Rápúr.	Atmakúr.	Udayagiri.	Kanigiri.	Darsi and Podili.	Ongole.	Total.
July 1891	35	..	150	150	..	..	..	..	398
August ,,	918	123	367	640	..	..	..	..	2,502
September ,,	437	215	429	2,076	..	..	..	..	3,885
October ,,	409	229	1,932	719	..	..	..	..	3,916
November ,,	242	143	442	187	..	..	..	..	1,030
December ,,	505	..	491	157	..	..	..	..	1,153
January 1892	..	..	..	332	1,573	147	1,615	395	* 5,841
February ,,	..	..	..	76	371	1,518	1,760	28	3,753
March ,,	..	..	..	220	1,377	1,431	2,505	155	5,688
April ,,	..	..	..	105	1,522	1,346	3,606	65	6,644
May ,,	..	..	..	131	3,116	..	7,281	579	11,107
June ,,	..	..	..	196	5,354	272	14,759	2,163	22,744
July ,,	..	..	..	..	4,683	360	10,535	1,145	16,723
August ,,	..	..	..	..	444	268	1,991	143	2,846

Months.	Cuddapah.							
	Vayalpad.	Madanapalle.	Kadiri.	Ráyachóti.	Cuddapah.	Sidhout.	Badvel	Total.
May 1891	..	..	..	170	..	..	..	170
June ,,	..	..	..	325	..	..	..	325
July ,,	..	..	..	159	..	..	..	159
August ,,	..	..	..	397	..	..	..	397
September ,,	..	..	..	1,385	..	..	..	1,385
October ,,	..	..	..	744	..	..	..	744
November ,,	..	..	..	259	..	..	..	259
December ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
January 1892	502	632	..	948	..	269	646	2,997
February ,,	126	654	36	1,418	..	300	979	3,513
March ,,	146	622	658	1,796	..	132	1,740	5,094
April ,,	548	897	669	2,871	..	562	3,548	9,095
May ,,	661	1,781	92	3,555	167	541	5,162	11,959
June ,,	933	1,307	58	3,584	115	369	5,036	11,402
July ,,	611	416	3	1,833	43	90	2,684	5,680
August ,,	78	41	..	776	..	..	1,488	2,383
September ,,	..	..	..	257	..	..	..	257

Months.	Kurnool.								Bellary.	
	Markapur.	Cumbum.	Koilkuntla.	Nandyal.	Nandikot-kur.	Ramallakot.	Patikonda.	Total.	Adóni.	Alúr.
November 1891	977	374	..	..	..	..	..	1,351	..	..
December ,,	1,448	377	..	..	..	354	..	2,179	608	831
January 1892	4,353	2,091	39	..	39	434	..	6,956	2,408	1,652
February ,,	6,485	4,636	465	..	495	661	278	13,020	2,667	2,013
March ,,	8,010	8,399	1,705	123	548	1,159	319	20,263	2,923	2,562
April † ,,	8,326	10,942	2,615	139	442	1,339	618	24,421	3,408	3,633
May † ,,	8,179	12,709	4,057	68	616	1,818	1,200	28,647	3,763	6,294
June ,,	7,622	10,800	3,694	..	162	1,249	1,573	25,100	4,275	10,537
July ,,	5,811	8,486	1,771	..	106	208	712	17,094	1,189	6,822
August ,,	4,853	4,359	779	..	..	..	150	10,141	..	4,204
September ,,	1,213	1,126	..	..	..	..	..	2,339	..	454

* This figure includes 691 coolies employed in Kandakúr and 1,088 employed in Kávali.
† 50 coolies employed in Sirvel in April and 18 in May not included.

III-A.

Statement showing the average number of persons relieved on works in each district during each month of the years 1891 and 1892—*cont.*

Months.	Bellary—*cont.*				Anantapur.			
	Hospet.	Bellary.	Rayadrug.	Total.	Dharma-varam.	Anantapur.	Tadpatri.	Total.
December 1891	173	125	102	1,839	394	..	..	394
January 1892	447	1,058	21	5,586	515	..	..	515
February ,, ...	108	1,131	116	6,035	487	..	..	487
March ,, ...	81	1,311	420	* 7,297	421	169	320	910
April ,, ...	74	1,764	259	9,138	317	372	470	1,159
May ,, ...	..	2,749	..	12,806	140	415	656	1,211
June ,, ...	..	3,198	..	18,010	102	528	604	1,234
July ,, ...	..	2,719	..	10,730	1	140	..	141
August ,, ...	..	1,225	..	5,429	..	..	..	..
September ,, ...	..	147	..	601	..	..	..	..

* 12 coolies employed in Hadgalli not included.

III-B.

STATEMENT showing the average number of persons relieved gratuitously at kitchens in each month during the years 1891 and 1892.

Months.	Coimbatore.					Salem.			North Arcot.				
	Pollachi.	Udamalpet.	Palladam.	Dhárápuram.	Total.	Tiruchengódu.	Salem.	Total.	Wandiwash.	Kálahasti.	Pólúr.	Punganúr.	Total.
March 1891 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	..	..	..	26
April ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	616	144	..	..	760
May ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	716	386	..	..	1,102
June ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	748	607	..	..	1,355
July ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	771	1,023	..	..	1,794
August ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,094	1,900	..	..	2,994
September ,, ..	50	376	39	..	465	..	..	..	1,722	2,624	28	..	4,374
October ,, ..	97	405	32	341	875	76	106	182	1,350	1,842	147	..	3,339
November ,, ..	97	374	..	311	782	129	110	239	568	1,518	111	..	2,197
December ,, ..	45	96	..	260	401	166	142	308	479	859	117	..	1,455
January 1892 ..	..	63	..	..	63	181	111	292	181	132	43	..	356
February ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	159	91	250	..	..	..	..	..
March ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	149	85	234	..	..	..	30	30
April ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	121	90	211	..	..	..	60	60
May ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	112	92	204	..	..	..	52	52
June ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	108	65	173	..	..	..	45	45
July ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	112	..	112	..	..	..	17	17
August ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	58	..	58	..	..	..	..	..

Months.	Chingleput.							Cuddapah.			
	Madurántakam.	Conjeeveram.	Chingleput.	Saidapet.	Tiruvallúr.	Ponnéri.	Total.	Ráyachóti.	Vayalpád.	Badvel.	Total.
May 1891 ..	..	..	17	25	42	38	122	..	..	..	..
June ,, ..	..	..	42	44	92	30	208	..	..	..	..
July ,, ..	139	..	141	72	132	56	540	..	..	..	..
August ,, ..	410	13	332	214	378	405	1,752	7	..	..	7
September ,, ..	485	39	393	190	473	527	2,107	14	..	..	14
October ,, ..	570	22	358	183	208	519	1,950	4	..	..	4
November ,, ..	225	..	139	90	103	348	905	..	..	..	..
December ,, ..	41	..	..	38	25	29	133	..	..	..	..
January 1892 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
February ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
March ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	6
April ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	16
May ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	17	73
June ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	17	81
July ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	16	..
August ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..

III-B.

Statement showing the average number of persons relieved gratuitously at kitchens in each month during the years 1891 and 1892—*cont.*

Months.	Nellore.				Kurnool.			
	Udayagiri.	Kanigiri.	Darsi and Podili.	Total.	Markapur.	Cumbum.	Koilkuntla.	Total.
December 1891	..	..	..	..	..	67	..	67
January 1892	..	..	..	..	84	248	..	332
February ,, ...	..	..	..	..	131	281	..	412
March ,, ...	..	..	..	..	178	251	9	438
April ,, ...	..	..	..	..	185	249	20	454
May ,, ...	..	95	..	95	152	264	71	487
June ,, ...	17	94	..	111	203	284	95	582
July ,, ...	5	126	44	175	184	255	10	449
August ,, ...	2	75	45	122	170	165	..	335
September ,, ...	..	3	4	7	72	51	..	123

Months.	Bellary.				Anantapur.				
	Adóni.	Alúr.	Bellary.	Total.	Dharma-varam.	Gooty.	Anantapur.	Tadpatri.	Total.
January 1892	..	..	..	..	..	120	..	158	278
February ,, ...	..	..	..	..	65	322	..	184	571
March ,, ...	21	16	..	37	61	93	4	82	240
April ,, ...	13	16	..	29	33	57	13	43	146
May ,, ...	13	13	3	29	29	32	30	40	131
June ,, ...	13	18	11	42	26	..	21	13	60
July ,, ...	19	23	3	45	12	..	8	..	20
August ,, ...	..	31	..	31	..	..	..	..	..
September ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

III-C.

Statement showing the average total number of persons relieved in each month during the years 1891 and 1892.

Months.	Tinnevelly.	Coimbatore.							
		Póllách.	Erode.	Coimbatore.	Palladam.	Dhárápuram.	Udamalpet.	Bhaváni.	Total.
March 1891	253	240	..	..	..	..	..	..	240
April ,, ...	1,639	370	..	..	..	..	..	..	370
May ,, ...	1,342	208	..	..	..	..	..	..	208
June ,, ...	768	423	..	..	..	..	..	..	428
July ,, ...	729	646	..	589	213	172	..	..	1,620
August ,, ...	524	1,021	..	290	609	1,374	19	..	3,313
September ,, ...	..	578	320	56	1,948	3,197	1,278	..	7,377
October ,, ...	..	598	522	..	974	1,432	1,183	464	5,173
November ,, ...	..	362	280	..	1,235	1,130	1,113	648	4,768
December ,, ...	..	115	183	..	699	1,183	541	565	3,286
January 1892	..	..	..	..	..	..	63	..	63
February ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
March ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
April ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	542	542
May ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	704	704
June ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	647	647
July ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	278	278

III-c.

Statement showing the average total number of persons relieved in each month during the years 1891 and 1892—*cont.*

Months.	Salem.					North Arcot.				
	Tiruchengód.	Salem.	Dharmapuri.	Uttankarai.	Total.	Kálahasti.	Pólúr.	Wandiwash.	Punganúr.	Total.
February 1891	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	155	..	155
March ,,	..	..	..	..	..	352	..	1,410	..	1,762
April ,,	..	..	..	..	..	1,079	..	2,993	..	4,072
May ,,	..	..	..	..	..	2,425	..	5,044	..	7,469
June ,,	..	..	..	..	..	2,758	..	5,805	..	8,563
July ,,	..	..	..	..	..	2,635	..	5,730	..	8,365
August ,,	..	..	..	..	..	5,170	..	6,323	..	11,493
September ,,	..	..	..	..	..	7,022	298	7,302	..	14,622
October ,,	5,080	1,413	471	611	7,575	5,953	2,150	5,644	..	13,747
November ,,	3,576	643	187	..	4,406	4,522	1,623	1,339	..	7,484
December ,,	3,987	142	..	..	4,129	2,690	771	850	..	4,311
January 1892	4,654	111	..	..	4,765	647	101	344	..	1,092
February ,,	4,702	91	..	..	4,793	..	..	..	87	87
March ,,	2,828	85	..	..	2,913	..	..	..	191	191
April ,,	5,100	90	..	..	5,190	..	..	..	750	750
May ,,	5,999	92	..	..	6,091	..	..	..	1,566	1,566
June ,,	6,760	65	..	..	6,825	..	..	..	1,843	1,843
July ,,	4,385	..	..	..	4,385	..	..	..	488	488
August ,,	753	..	..	..	753	..	..	..	..	..

Months.	Chingleput.							Nellore.	
	Madurántakam.	Conjeeveram.	Chingleput.	Saidápet.	Tiruvallúr.	Ponnéri.	Total.	Pólúr.	Venkatagiri.
February 1891	..	..	..	76	185	667	928	..	..
March ,,	352	518	649	413	1,193	1,324	4,449	..	..
April ,,	715	418	1,152	148	1,164	1,065	4,662	..	..
May ,,	1,198	768	1,358	923	768	1,530	6,934	..	..
June ,,	1,191	460	2,278	719	1,902	1,713	8,263	..	..
July ,,	1,292	626	2,107	538	1,644	1,490	7,697	63	27
August ,,	1,695	1,265	2,185	621	1,004	2,497	9,267	427	64
September ,,	1,904	842	1,901	878	2,236	1,635	9,396	664	38
October ,,	1,770	1,430	2,424	1,086	1,573	1,566	9,849	589	16
November ,,	1,200	898	1,222	582	1,197	1,553	6,652	..	..
December ,,	513	794	659	290	648	800	3,704	..	..
January 1892	20	37	30	14	9	126	236	..	..

Months.	Nellore—*cont.*								
	Gúdúr.	Nellore.	Rapur.	Atmakúr.	Udayagiri.	Kanigiri.	Darsi and Podili.	Ongole.	Total.
July 1891	35	..	150	150	..	..	..	..	398
August ,,	918	123	367	640	..	..	..	..	2,502
September ,,	437	215	429	2,076	..	..	..	..	3,885
October ,,	409	229	1,932	719	..	..	..	..	3,916
November ,,	242	143	442	187	..	..	..	..	1,030
December ,,	505	..	491	157	..	..	..	..	1,153
January 1892	..	..	..	332	1,573	147	1,615	395	5,841
February ,,	..	..	..	76	371	1,518	1,760	28	3,753
March ,,	..	..	..	220	1,377	1,431	2,505	155	5,688
April ,,	..	..	..	105	1,522	1,346	3,606	65	6,644
May ,,	..	..	..	131	3,116	95	7,281	579	11,202
June ,,	..	..	..	196	5,371	366	14,759	2,163	22,855
July ,,	..	..	..	..	4,688	486	10,579	1,145	16,898
August ,,	..	..	..	..	446	343	2,036	143	2,968
September ,,	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	..	7

III-c.

Statement showing the average total number of persons relieved in each month during the years 1891 and 1892—*cont.*

Months.	Cuddapah.							
	Vayalpad.	Madanapalle.	Kadiri.	Râyachôti.	Cuddapah.	Sidhout.	Badvel.	Total.
May 1891	..	..	..	170	..	..	..	170
June ,, ...	..	..	..	325	..	..	..	325
July ,, ...	..	..	..	159	..	..	..	159
August ,, ...	..	..	..	404	..	..	..	404
September ,, ...	..	..	..	1,399	..	..	..	1,399
October ,, ...	..	..	..	748	..	..	..	748
November ,, ...	..	..	..	259	..	..	..	259
December ,, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
January 1892	502	632	..	948	..	269	646	2,997
February ,, ...	126	654	36	1,418	..	300	979	3,513
March ,, ...	146	622	658	1,796	..	132	1,746	5,100
April ,, ...	548	897	669	2,871	..	562	3,564	9,111
May ,, ...	717	1,781	92	3,555	167	541	5,179	12,032
June ,, ...	997	1,307	58	3,584	115	369	5,053	11,483
July ,, ...	650	416	3	1,833	43	90	2,700	5,735
August ,, ...	78	41	..	776	..	..	1,490	2,385
September ,, ...	..	..	..	256	..	..	..	257

Months.	Kurnool.								Bellary.	
	Markapur.	Cumbum.	Koilkuntla.	Nandyal.	Nandikôt-kur.	Ramalla-kot.	Pattikonda.	Total.	Adóni.	Alûr.
November 1891 ..	977	374	..	..	..	..	..	1,351	..	..
December ,, ..	1,448	444	..	..	..	354	..	2,246	608	831
January 1892 ..	4,437	2,339	39	..	39	434	..	7,288	2,408	1,652
February ,, ..	6,366	4,917	465	..	495	661	278	13,432	2,667	2,013
March ,, ..	8,188	8,650	1,714	123	548	1,159	319	20,701	2,944	2,578
April ,, ..	8,511	11,191	2,635	139	442	1,338	618	24,875	3,421	3,649
May ,, ..	8,306	12,973	4,128	68	616	1,818	1,200	29,109	3,776	6,307
June ,, ..	7,825	11,084	3,789	..	162	1,249	1,573	25,682	4,288	10,555
July ,, ..	5,995	8,741	1,781	..	106	208	712	17,543	1,208	6,845
August ,, ..	5,023	4,524	779	..	..	..	150	10,476	..	4,235
September ,, ..	1,285	1,177	..	..	..	..	..	2,462	..	454

Months.	Bellary—*cont.*				Anantapur.				
	Hospet.	Bellary.	Rayadrug.	Total.	Dharmava-ram.	Gooty.	Anantapur.	Tadpatri.	Total.
December 1891 ..	173	125	102	1,839	394	..	..	..	394
January 1892 ..	447	1,058	21*	5,586	515	120	..	158	793
February ,, ..	108	1,131	116	6,035	552	322	..	184	1,058
March ,, ..	81	1,311	420	*7,334	482	93	173	402	1,150
April ,, ..	74	1,764	259	9,167	350	57	385	513	1,305
May ,, ..	..	2,752	..	12,835	169	32	445	696	1,342
June ,, ..	..	3,209	..	18,052	128	..	549	617	1,294
July ,, ..	..	2,722	..	10,775	13	..	148	..	161
August ,, ..	..	1,225	..	5,460	..	..	..	..	..
September ,, ..	..	147	..	601	..	..	..	..	..

* This figure excludes 12 coolies employed in Hadgalli taluk.

IV.

ABSTRACT Statement of Expenditure on relief works in each district during 1891–92.

Districts.	Class of work.	Expenditure. Cost of works. Actual.	Expenditure. Cost of works. For which value of work done not reported.	Expenditure. Cost of works. For which value of work done reported.	Expenditure. Normal value of works in column 5.	Expenditure. Excess cost of works in column 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Coimbatore	Roads by Local Fund	74,420 3 5	..	74,420 3 5	74,050 6 10	369 12 7
	Establishment	1,274 13 2	1,274 13 2	..	..	..
	District, Total ..	75,695 0 7	1,274 13 2	74,420 3 5	74,050 6 10	369 12 7
Salem	Irrigation by Public Works Department	1,113 10 0	..	1,113 10 0	1,113 10 0	..
	Minor Irrigation	3,701 3 7	..	3,701 3 7	2,400 11 8	1,300 7 11
	Establishment	769 14 11	769 14 11	..	..	..
	Total ..	5,584 12 6	769 14 11	4,814 13 7	3,514 5 8	1,300 7 11
	Roads	1,10,370 4 10	..	1,10,370 4 10	71,070 15 11	39,299 4 11
	Establishment	2,678 14 1	2,678 14 1	..	..	..
	District, Total ..	1,18,633 15 5	3,448 13 0	1,15,185 2 5	74,585 5 7	40,599 12 10
North Arcot	Irrigation by Public Works Department	50,976 7 6	50,976 7 6	..	..	..
	Establishment	19,843 4 4	19,843 4 4	..	..	..
	Minor Irrigation	11,238 13 11	11,238 13 11	..	..	..
	Total ..	82,058 9 9	82,058 9 9	..	..	..
	Roads	52,300 9 0	..	52,300 9 0	36,144 3 6	16,156 5 6
	Miscellaneous	6,299 15 7	6,299 15 7	..	..	..
	District, Total ..	1,40,659 2 4	88,358 9 4	52,300 9 0	36,144 3 6	16,156 5 6
Chingleput	Irrigation by Public Works Department	96,807 1 8	..	96,807 1 8	96,807 1 8	..
	Establishment	3,430 3 1	3,430 3 1	..	..	..
	Minor Irrigation	83,642 11 9	..	83,642 11 9	83,642 11 9	..
	Total ..	1,83,880 0 6	3,430 3 1	1,80,449 13 5	1,80,449 13 5	..
	Roads	13,136 12 8	..	13,136 12 8	13,136 12 8	..
	District, Total ..	1,97,016 13 2	3,430 3 1	1,93,586 10 1	1,93,586 10 1	..

Abstract Statement of Expenditure on relief works, &c.—*cont.*

Districts.	Class of work.	Expenditure. Actual.	Cost of works. For which value of work done not reported.	Cost of works. For which value of work done reported.	Normal value of works in column 5.	Excess cost of works in column 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Nellore	Irrigation by Public Works Department	9,260 3 11	..	9,260 3 11	5,081 3 3	4,179 0 8
	Establishment	4,516 13 11	4,516 13 11	..	..	..
	Minor Irrigation	55,067 4 11	..	55,067 4 11	53,973 7 3	1,093 13 8
	Establishment	1,893 2 4	1,893 2 4	..	..	..
	Total	70,737 9 1	6,410 0 3	64,327 8 10	59,054 10 6	5,272 14 4
	Roads	1,88,241 3 6	..	1,88,241 3 6	58,278 8 9	129,962 10 9
	Establishment	8,929 12 1	8929 12 1	..	..	..
	Miscellaneous	36,345 9 8	..	36,345 9 8	35,792 1 8	553 8 0
	District, Total	3,04,254 2 4	15,339 12 4	2,88,914 6 0	1,53,125 4 11	135,789 1 1
Cuddapah	Irrigation by Public Works Department	57,604 2 0	..	57,604 2 0	42,956 2 11	14,647 15 1
	Establishment	14,938 6 10	14,938 6 10	..	..	..
	Minor Irrigation	30,916 14 11	30,916 14 11	..	..	..
	Total	1,03,459 7 9	45,855 5 9	57,604 2 0	42,956 2 11	14,647 15 1
	Roads	61,668 15 5	..	61,668 15 5	34,523 4 2	27,145 11 3
	Establishment	12,785 8 3	12,785 8 3	..	..	..
	Miscellaneous	7,648 10 6	..	7,648 10 6	6,021 3 4	1,627 7 2
	District, Total	1,85,562 9 11	58,640 14 0	1,26,921 11 11	83,500 10 5	43,421 1 6
Anantapur	Irrigation by Public Works Department	6,800 2 7	..	6,800 2 7	2,939 11 1	3,860 7 6
	Establishment	10,444 12 1	10,444 12 1	..	..	..
	Total	17,244 14 8	10,444 12 1	6,800 2 7	2,939 11 1	3,860 7 6
	Roads	3,647 12 0	..	3,647 12 0	3,647 12 0	..
	Miscellaneous	5,249 4 11	..	5,249 4 11	1,798 9 3	3,450 11 8
	District, Total	26,141 15 7	10,444 12 1	15,697 3 6	8,386 0 4	7,311 3 2
Bellary	Irrigation by Public Works Department	19,457 4 11	..	19,457 4 11	10,158 13 7	9,298 7 4
	Establishment	9,898 11 8	9,898 11 8	..	..	..
	Total	29,356 0 7	9,898 11 8	19,457 4 11	10,158 13 7	9,298 7 4

Abstract Statement of Expenditure on relief works, &c.—*cont.*

Districts.	Class of work.	Expenditure. Actual.	Cost of works. For which value of work done not reported.	Cost of works. For which value of work done reported.	Normal value of works in column 5.	Excess cost of works in column 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Bellary—*cont*	Roads	1,66,595 13 5	..	1,66,595 13 5	1,04,977 9 4	61,618 4 1
	Establishment	5,598 6 11	5,598 6 11	..	..	..
	District, Total ..	2,01,550 4 11	15,497 2 7	1,86,053 2 4	1,15,136 6 11	70,916 11 5
Kurnool	Irrigation by Public Works Department	1,57,726 4 9	..	1,57,726 4 9	1,06,864 0 3	50,862 4 6
	Establishment	24,066 2 6	24,066 2 6	..	..	..
	Minor Irrigation	8,339 0 0	..	8,339 0 0	8,339 0 0	..
	Total ..	1,90,131 7 3	24,066 2 6	1,66,065 4 9	1,15,203 0 3	50,862 4 6
	Roads	2,12,483 11 11	..	2,12,483 11 11	1,46,485 11 11	65,998 0 0
	Miscellaneous	1,048 8 6	..	1,048 8 6	1,048 8 6	..
	District, Total ..	4,03,663 11 8	24,066 2 6	3,79,597 9 2	2,62,737 4 8	1,16,860 4 6
	Grand Total ..	16,53,177 11 11	2,20,501 2 1	14,32,676 9 10	10,01,252 5 3	4,31,424 4 7

V.

Note on the grain trade of the famine period.

The general activity of the grain trade of the last two years so far as it is carried by rail may be gauged from the comparative table given on the margin showing the total volume carried by rail during the last five years. It will be seen that during 1889–90 over 23,000 tons more grain was carried than in the previous year and that further increases of 32,500 and 73,600 tons took place in the two succeeding years, respectively. Details of how this trade affected different parts of the Presidency are shown in the following table :—

Year.	Foreign.		Internal.	Total.
	Imports.	Exports.		
	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
1887–88 ..	54,466	17,418	187,266	259,150
1888–89 ..	47,051	29,112	229,030	305,193
1889–90 ..	69,081	32,565	226,554	328,200
1890–91 ..	110,095	16,764	233,939	360,798
1891–92 ..	134,283	29,858	270,315	434,456

Year.	Nature of trade.	Kistna.	Ceded Districts and Kurnool.	Nellore.	Chingleput and North Arcot.	Madras (port).	South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly including ports.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
1887-88 ..	Imports	No record.	12,201	356	14,213	56,631	40,197
	Exports	Do.	12,729	241	74,405	10,183	80,747
	Net .. Imports ..	No record.	..	115	..	46,448	..
	Net .. Exports ..	Do.	528	..	60,192	..	40,550
1888-89 ..	Imports	..	10,458	931	9,864	53,620	49,073
	Exports	5	19,831	1,453	103,380	15,386	80,953
	Net .. Imports ..	..	..	..	..	38,234	..
	Net .. Exports ..	5	9,373	522	93,516	..	31,880
1889-90 ..	Imports	524	11,001	904	22,541	55,091	57,288
	Exports	18,067	13,930	1,749	91,481	15,491	78,298
	Net .. Imports ..	..	..	..	..	39,600	..
	Net .. Exports ..	17,543	2,929	845	68,940	..	21,010
1890-91 ..	Imports	3,960	8,935	3,577	23,461	50,423	46,860
	Exports	5,448	25,643	1,310	64,947	17,190	101,704
	Net .. Imports ..	..	..	2,267	..	33,233	..
	Net .. Exports ..	1,488	16,708	..	41,486	..	54,844
1891-92 ..	Imports	2,387	49,133	5,267	57,823	38,422	41,507
	Exports	8,830	31,676	3,195	31,631	35,181	147,954
	Net .. Imports ..	..	17,457	2,072	26,192	3,241	..
	Net .. Exports ..	6,443	..	..	..	..	106,447

Year.	Nature of trade.	Madura and Tinnevelly including port.	Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar including port.	Total of Presidency with Mysore.	Nizam's territory.	Bombay.	Other provinces.	Total.
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
1887-88 ..	Imports	62,579	55,555	41,305	5,280	7,732	149	54,466
	Exports	14,237	12,142	9,661	1,280	6,465	12	17,418
	Net Imports ..	48,342	43,413	31,644	4,000	1,267	137	37,048
1888-89 ..	Imports	56,800	95,335	36,132	4,584	6,333	2	47,051
	Exports	11,909	25,224	11,158	6,970	10,984	..	29,112
	Net .. Imports ..	44,891	70,111	24,974	..	..	2	17,939
	Net .. Exports ..	..	..	..	2,386	4,651	..	..
1889-90 ..	Imports	51,593	96,693	54,643	8,931	5,407	100	69,081
	Exports	13,930	26,173	11,027	20,267	1,270	1	32,565
	Net .. Imports ..	37,663	70,520	43,616	..	4,137	99	36,516
	Net .. Exports ..	..	..	..	11,336	..	..	..
1890-91 ..	Imports	107,427	99,391	89,501	16,295	4,287	12	110,095
	Exports	12,053	22,408	10,081	4,969	1,713	1	16,764
	Net Imports ..	95,374	76,983	79,420	11,326	2,574	11	93,331
1891-92 ..	Imports	97,912	112,146	68,159	47,457	15,843	2,824	134,283
	Exports	11,658	30,047	27,997	1,398	456	7	29,858
	Net Imports ..	86,254	82,099	40,162	46,059	15,387	2,817	104,425

2. As regards the sea-borne grain trade, the figures for the last two years show a corresponding increase. They are as noted on the margin. The imports from beyond India may be disregarded, as in no year did they much exceed 200 tons. The imports into the Presidency from Indian ports were in 1891–92 about double the usual amount and these came chiefly from beyond the Presidency as is shown by the comparative steadiness of the exports coastwise. There was also a great curtailment of the exports of grain abroad. Details of the results of this trade as it affected different parts of the Presidency are shown in the next table :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.		Total.
		Foreign.	Coastwise.	
	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
1887–88 ..	162,104	86,390	64,145	312,639
1888–89 ..	136,826	95,694	92,928	325,448
1889–90 ..	152,331	99,276	105,030	356,637
1890–91 ..	258,817	84,438	119,975	463,230
1891–92 ..	316,629	68,532	108,391	493,552

Year.	Nature of trade.	Ganjam.	Vizagapatam.	Godávari.	Kistna.	Nellore.	Madras.
1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
1887-88 ..	Imports	98	4,980	449	445	165	16,004
	Exports	6,386	80	12,817	15,928	278	2,395
	Net .. Imports ..	..	4,900	..	..	..	13,609
	Net .. Exports ..	6,288	..	12,368	15,483	113	..
1888-89 ..	Imports	1,966	16,421	20	74	519	12,137
	Exports	2,442	89	37,335	16,077	316	5,171
	Net .. Imports ..	..	16,332	..	..	203	6,966
	Net .. Exports ..	476	..	37,315	16,003	..	..
1889-90 ..	Imports	4,893	9,157	35	269	208	18,000
	Exports	1,793	1,934	47,526	15,637	151	7,160
	Net .. Imports ..	3,100	7,223	..	..	57	10,840
	Net .. Exports ..	..	..	47,491	15,368	..	..
1890-91 ..	Imports	28	331	391	104	235	31,532
	Exports	16,243	2,051	51,764	27,254	280	1,878
	Net .. Imports ..	..	..	..	..	..	29,654
	Net .. Exports ..	16,215	1,720	51,373	27,150	45	..
1891-92 ..	Imports	2	1,848	132	279	974	96,710
	Exports	22,176	2,273	35,628	22,825	121	455
	Net .. Imports ..	..	..	..	..	853	96,255
	Net .. Exports ..	22,174	425	35,496	22,546	..	..

Year.	Nature of trade.	South Arcot.	Tanjore.	Madura.	Tinnevelly.	Malabar.	South Canara.	Presidency total.
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
1887-88	Imports	16	9,143	4,401	16,950	106,942	2,511	162,104
	Exports	11,120	63,507	1,689	4,573	6,286	25,476	150,535
	Net .. Imports ..	..	..	2,712	12,377	100,656	..	11,569
	Net .. Exports ..	11,104	54,364	..	..	..	22,965	..
1888-89	Imports	1,056	6,552	4,521	11,758	79,486	2,316	136,826
	Exports	12,007	66,092	2,185	5,421	10,292	31,195	188,622
	Net .. Imports ..	..	..	2,336	6,337	69,19	..	..
	Net .. Exports ..	10,951	59,540	..	..	..	28,879	51,796
1839-90	Imports	4,674	12,560	6,893	7,130	85,648	2,864	152,331
	Exports	10,909	72,079	1,413	6,223	10,324	29,157	204,306
	Net .. Imports ..	..	..	5,480	907	75,324	..	..
	Net .. Exports ..	6,235	59,519	..	..	..	26,293	51,975
1890-91	Imports	5,815	16,690	21,354	20,756	158,635	2,946	258,817
	Exports	5,707	57,357	1,363	5,391	9,387	25,738	204,413
	Net .. Imports ..	108	..	19,991	15,365	149,248	..	54,404
	Net .. Exports ..	..	40,667	..	..	..	22,792	..
1891-92	Imports	2,747	16,128	14,479	34,204	145,368	3,758	316,629
	Exports	3,959	51,277	2,531	3,995	8,643	23,040	176,923
	Net .. Imports ..	..	..	11,948	30,209	136,725	..	139,706
	Net .. Exports ..	1,212	35,149	..	..	..	19,282	..

3. In 1888-89 the rail-borne trade in grain between different parts of the Presidency was far greater than in the preceding year, the increase occurring chiefly in the imports into the Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar block, chiefly from the adjoining districts to the east; Chingleput and North Arcot in that year exporting about 33,000 tons net more than in the previous year. There was also a material increase in the imports into the South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly block. The following year was marked by a great increase in the imports from Mysore and from Hyderabad, though in the case of the latter province there was against this a very much larger export than in former

years. During the latter half of the year the Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar, the Madura and Tinnevelly and the Madras blocks greatly increased their imports, whilst from Chingleput and North Arcot, the net exports decreased largely as these districts imported heavily, the balance of the total grain trade both by sea and by rail stood against the Presidency. It was in this year, 1889–90, that the initial failure of crops in the Carnatic and Southern districts occurred, and the result was shown in the following year when the net imports into the two southern districts during the first half of the year were between four and five times as large as in either half of the year ending September 1889, and in the second half of the year increased still more. During the second half of this year, 1890–91, the imports into the Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar block were double what they had been before, whilst the net exports from Chingleput and North Arcot diminished to a comparatively small figure. On the other hand, the net exports from the Ceded districts and Kurnool increased largely. In this year there was a great development of the imports, chiefly ragi, from Mysore, whilst from Hyderabad also a very brisk trade sprang up.

4. The very active import trade which sprang during the latter half of 1890, has continued ever since on a large scale and during the whole period, the southern districts have been importing very large though latterly decreasing quantities of grain by rail and by sea. Owing to the increase of their imports and restriction of exports from Chingleput and North Arcot early in 1891, the June quarter of that year was the last during which these districts were able to show a net export of grain, whilst the total trade for the half-year ending September 1891 was one of net imports into that block. Consequently, the supplies of grain received at Madras from the interior fell off rapidly and the town had to depend more and more on imports by sea. The demands of the Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar block were at their maximum during the half-year ending March 1891, but were chiefly met by enormous imports by sea into Malabar, and they continued to be very large for the whole of the following twelve months.

5. Up to September 1891, the Ceded Districts and Kurnool had maintained a net export trade to other parts of the Presidency. During the half-year ending with that month, the imports from Mysore also were on an unprecedented scale, but later on they fell off, and that province began to draw considerable quantities of rice from Madras. When this occurred, however, large supplies of cholum and cumbu began to pour in from Hyderabad and Bombay, and so the gross imports were very large. At about this time the exports from the Deccan districts stopped and during the latter half of the year 1891--92, these districts showed a net import far larger than the total net exports of the preceding 18 months. This phase continued up to September last, and during the twelve months then ended, these districts imported 55,000 tons of grain over and above what they exported during the same period. Chingleput and North Arcot were forced, during 1892, to increase their imports and to further curtail their exports largely, so that instead of showing a net export they showed a considerable net import, and this feature continued up to the end of September last. Madras continued to receive far less grain than usual from the interior, and until quite recently, during the latest half-year referred to, the increase in the supplies sent inland from the port was so great as to greatly reduce the balance standing against the town. Towards the end of 1891, the South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly block increased its exports by rail by nearly 50 per cent., and large exports are still being made from that block, whilst the total net exports both by rail and by sea have been very large. Although Madura and Tinnevelly were able to get along with less imported grain in the latter portion of the period alluded to, their imports continued large, and during the six months ending September last, the net imports into that block were considerably smaller than they were in the corresponding period of the previous year. The Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar block also towards the end of the year 1891–92 and since has been able to get along with much smaller imports than before.

6. Particulars of the trade referred to above are given in the appendix for each grain dealt with, and the following abstracts show the net results of the grain trade, during each quarter during the period of distress and for each half-year from 1889 up to September 1892 :—

STATEMENT showing the net quarterly results of the grain-trade from October 1890 to September 1892.

Districts.	Nature of trade.	Net trade during the quarter ending															
		December 1890.		March 1891.		June 1891.		September 1891.		December 1891.		March 1892.		June 1892.		September 1892.	
		Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Ganjam	Sea-borne	..	1,896	..	11,763	..	11,093	..	5,243	..	2,651	..	3,187	..	659	..	21
Vizagapatam	Sea-borne	..	309	..	779	..	765	..	825	..	258	1,424	..	1,600	..	3,836	..
Godávari	Sea-borne	..	9,293	..	14,560	..	13,140	..	8,295	..	9,282	..	4,779	..	5,075	..	8,391
Kistna	Sea-borne	..	4,898	..	4,636	..	6,742	..	10,152	..	2,585	..	3,066	..	4,188	..	8,131
	Rail-borne	1,003	..	..	250	304	..	536	..	..	4,845	..	2,438	..	4,600	..	1,069
	Total ..	..	3,895	..	4,886	..	6,438	..	9,616	..	7,430	..	5,504	..	8,788	..	9,200
Ceded Districts and Kurnool.	Rail-borne	..	6,239	..	4,661	..	2,911	..	13,686	23,327	..	10,727	..	14,922	..	6,058	..
Nellore	Sea-borne	..	..	111	..	119	..	..	122	..	..	854	..	344	..	..	..
	Rail-borne	1,384	..	1,303	..	..	64	1,535	..	..	314	915	..	1,170	..	658	..
	Total ..	1,384	..	1,414	..	99	..	1,413	..	..	314	1,769	..	1,514	..	658	..
Chingleput and North Arcot.	Rail-borne	..	13,189	..	4,694	..	5,451	13,327	..	8,285	..	10,031	..	2,812	..	3,120	..
Madras	Sea-borne	5,506	..	12,408	..	16,463	..	21,517	..	17,708	..	40,567	..	13,543	..	12,956	..
	Rail-borne	11,163	..	7,731	..	7,820	..	2,551	..	..	6,052	..	1,078	..	2,299	1,870	..
	Total ..	16,669	..	20,139	..	24,283	..	24,068	..	11,656	..	39,489	..	11,244	..	14,826	..
South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly including Pondicherry and Negapatam.	Sea-borne	..	11,796	..	11,185	..	6,748	..	10,144	..	8,269	..	11,191	..	7,367	..	10,233
	Rail-borne	..	26,427	..	16,693	..	14,206	..	25,052	..	40,979	..	26,210	..	16,163	..	26,687
	Total ..	..	38,223	..	27,878	..	20,954	..	35,196	..	49,248	..	37,401	..	23,530	..	36,920
Madura and Tinnevelly including Tuticorin.	Sea-borne	6,285	..	9,775	..	14,769	..	9,640	..	14,663	..	3,086	..	10,268	..	5,176	..
	Rail-borne	33,336	..	21,531	..	16,782	..	27,597	..	28,445	..	13,430	..	10,129	..	22,657	..
	Total ..	39,621	..	31,306	..	31,551	..	37,237	..	43,108	..	16,516	..	20,397	..	27,833	..
Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar including Calicut.	Sea-borne	28,490	..	83,242	..	38,475	..	2,854	..	22,672	..	73,848	..	33,815	..	1,699	..
	Rail-borne	23,940	..	18,376	..	23,111	..	39,783	..	15,129	..	4,078	..	12,080	..	12,425	..
	Total ..	52,430	..	101,618	..	61,586	..	42,637	..	37,801	..	77,926	..	45,895	..	14,124	..
South Canara	Sea-borne	..	7,858	..	8,421	..	4,594	..	47	..	6,259	..	8,382	..	3,423	..	666
Presidency Total ..	Sea-borne	4,231	..	54,192	..	26,744	..	..	817	25,739	..	89,174	..	38,858	..	..	3,805
	Rail-borne	24,971	..	22,643	..	25,385	..	46,591	..	22,990	..	9,455	..	18,051	..	19,032	..
	Total ..	29,202	..	76,835	..	52,129	..	45,774	..	48,735	..	98,629	..	56,909	..	15,227	..

Net results of grain-trade during the half-years ending

District or block.	Direction.	1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.	
		March.	September.	March.	September.	March.	September.	March.	September.
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Ganjam	Imports	1,661	4,140	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Exports	..	..	1,040	2,555	13,659	16,336	5,837	680
Vizagapatam	Imports	13,527	4,880	2,344	..	..	..	1,165	5,406
	Exports	..	..	..	633	1,088	1,590	..	..
Godávari	Exports	25,060	21,610	25,881	27,018	23,853	21,435	14,061	13,466
Kistna	Exports	6,860	11,531	21,376	19,847	8,783	16,053	12,934	17,988
Ceded Districts and Kurnool	Imports	..	1,232	..	..	..	..	34,052	20,980
	Exports	6,629	..	4,159	5,807	10,901	16,596	..	..
Nellore	Imports	498	..	211	..	2,797	1,470	1,454	2,172
	Exports	..	998	..	578	..	..	..	..
Chingleput and North Arcot	Imports	..	..	..	..	..	7,875	18,316	5,933
	Exports	49,045	48,443	20,494	23,603	17,883	..	..	..
Madras	Imports	22,901	17,625	32,854	26,073	36,810	48,350	51,146	26,068
South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly	Exports	56,055	45,384	41,129	29,301	66,101	56,151	86,650	60,448
Madura and Tinnevelly	Imports	15,470	12,167	31,901	59,103	70,925	68,786	59,624	48,230
Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar	Imports	64,775	59,728	87,204	72,180	154,048	104,222	115,729	60,019
South Canara	Exports	23,294	6,670	19,624	5,862	16,280	4,641	14,641	4,089
Presidency Total	Imports	..	..	20,811	42,152	106,032	97,901	147,363	72,137
	Exports	48,051	34,864	..	..	..	..	..	..
Official year	Imports	..	..		..		148,184		245,264		..
	Exports	..	14,053		..		..		..

30th January 1893.

(Signed) C. BENSON, M.R.A.C.,
Deputy Director of Agriculture.

V-A.

STATEMENT showing the net grain-trade (sea-borne and rail-borne) for a series of half years from October 1888 to September 1892.

Grains.	During the half-year ending	Ganjam.	Vizagapatam.	Godávari.	Kistna.	Ceded Districts and Kurnool.	Nellore.	Chingleput and North Arcot.	Madras.	South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly.	Madura and Tinnevelly.	Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar.	South Canara.	Presidency Total.
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Wheat ..	March 1889	..	— 4	2	..	1,269	13	210	1,134	202	130	566	132	3,654
	September "	4	— 3	— 2	— 15	1,440	9	143	1,106	210	102	533	96	3,623
	March 1890	..	..	1	— 9	1,572	27	260	1,325	205	179	507	111	4,178
	September "	1	— 3	— 1	— 10	1,095	27	307	1,129	— 160	159	1,144	99	3,787
	March 1891	..	— 3	6	75	845	32	257	1,160	214	123	959	116	3,784
	September "	..	..	..	— 47	655	— 9	238	1,010	291	169	681	102	3,090
	March 1892	1	83	— 2	— 9	1,286	..	71	854	240	112	778	126	3,540
	September "	10	69	47	61	634	14	121	744	192	139	497	120	2,648
Paddy ..	March 1889	316	11,146	— 9,208	— 4,489	— 244	357	— 8,918	1,086	— 20,634	9,026	8,924	— 8,055	— 20,688
	September "	1,553	3,519	— 6,176	— 1,935	— 466	— 219	— 8,591	1,427	— 9,222	6,681	13,816	— 1,423	— 1,036
	March 1890	15	3,380	— 11,396	— 5,710	— 1,120	— 67	— 2,014	4,075	— 11,793	17,704	33,599	— 7,837	18,836
	September "	..	199	— 11,884	— 13,124	— 1,289	— 58	— 3,296	812	— 11,324	30,876	22,652	— 1,211	12,353
	March 1891	— 153	— 100	— 13,537	— 7,527	— 344	190	— 4,426	3,297	— 34,673	44,097	53,322	— 7,708	32,438
	September "	— 2,287	— 13	— 8,611	— 12,455	— 799	— 320	941	5,948	— 30,197	43,363	21,353	— 794	16,129
	March 1892	— 209	887	— 1,722	— 4,773	1,693	597	10,307	4,732	— 57,880	42,958	48,346	— 5,301	39,635
	September "	..	3,268	— 5,170	— 10,751	428	741	3,793	3,919	— 32,386	28,105	18,277	— 650	9,574
Rice ..	March 1889	1,430	1,556	— 11,453	— 699	— 2,991	— 84	— 41,799	13,267	— 40,902	7,298	49,095	— 15,944	— 41,226
	September "	1,421	226	— 8,916	— 4,903	— 1,816	— 102	— 43,915	8,878	— 43,344	5,580	36,975	— 5,337	— 55,253
	March 1890	— 444	562	— 11,295	— 13,600	— 701	— 44	— 29,818	16,855	— 40,567	9,082	44,784	— 13,142	— 38,328
	September "	— 1,816	91	— 8,067	— 5,461	— 606	— 132	— 25,814	13,814	— 29,863	13,492	30,975	— 5,051	— 18,438
	March 1891	— 11,121	— 172	— 5,683	— 1,302	722	— 26	— 21,413	20,557	— 33,827	12,184	71,622	— 9,758	21,783
	September "	— 11,493	— 171	— 6,111	— 1,270	3,055	— 501	— 13,120	27,204	— 34,109	13,350	29,678	— 4,460	2,052
	March 1892	— 3,949	734	— 6,412	— 3,971	10,043	41	— 4,800	34,154	— 31,861	12,419	42,603	— 11,000	38,001
	September "	— 536	1,453	— 4,453	— 3,571	2,898	— 30	— 7,720	12,149	— 31,939	9,311	16,930	— 4,203	— 9,711
Cholum and cumbu.	March 1889	..	..	..	..	— 5,975	— 3	— 863	364	61	— 97	— 716	..	— 7,229
	September "	..	..	..	— 24	— 354	— 2	— 126	98	86	— 132	662	..	208
	March 1890	..	81	..	— 6	— 800	38	8	224	447	350	613	..	955
	September "	..	..	..	1,691	— 3,190	— 12	— 816	380	86	2,222	— 349	1	13
	March 1891	..	..	..	1,246	— 9,749	1,270	— 214	433	— 337	3,243	6,284	..	2,176
	September "	..	— 8	..	1,066	— 14,657	2,395	3,385	183	937	720	24,156	..	18,177
	March 1892	..	— 34	..	— 289	13,465	795	3,464	261	246	494	9,723	..	28,125
	September "	..	252	..	746	12,548	512	1,266	— 3	— 38	443	10,467	..	26,193
Gram and pulse..	March 1889	— 262	84	— 4,153	— 1,621	1,029	— 160	3,087	6,145	3,648	— 21	— 4,524	700	3,952
	September "	— 14	138	— 5,505	— 3,980	1,855	— 781	3,187	5,111	3,927	1,248	— 2,808	79	2,457
	March 1890	— 672	— 1,856	— 3,126	— 2,062	— 3,041	44	4,012	6,317	4,257	3,102	— 1,165	1,175	6,985
	September "	— 723	— 920	— 6,807	— 3,147	— 1,212	— 366	2,372	5,156	3,125	5,572	2,152	324	5,526
	March 1891	— 2,382	— 809	— 4,245	— 1,304	— 1,614	176	2,326	6,311	2,668	5,960	4,221	1,068	12,376
	September "	— 2,412	— 1,394	— 6,325	— 3,323	— 2,193	— 384	3,062	7,746	4,918	9,184	4,186	403	13,468
	March 1892	— 1,256	— 408	— 5,406	— 3,405	7,439	— 193	1,394	8,142	4,438	3,203	3,270	1,310	18,438
	September "	— 156	226	— 3,298	— 2,768	4,505	— 49	1,301	7,601	4,636	7,263	5,481	556	25,298

Statement showing the net grain-trade (sea-borne and rail-borne) for a series of half-years from October 1888 to September 1892—*cont.*

Grains.	During the half-year ending	Ganjám.	Vizagapatam.	Gódávari.	Kistna.	Ceded Districts, and Kurnool.	Nellore.	Chingleput and North Arcot.	Madras.	South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly.	Madura and Tinnevelly.	Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar.	South Canara.	Presidency Total.
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Other grains ..	March 1889	177	745	— 193	— 51	283	375	— 762	905	1,570	— 866	11,430	— 127	13,486
	September ,, ...	1,176	1,000	— 1,011	— 674	573	97	859	1,005	2,959	— 1,312	10,550	— 85	15,187
	March 1890	61	177	— 65	11	— 69	213	7,058	4,058	6,322	1,484	8,866	69	28,185
	September ,, ...	— 17	..	— 259	204	— 605	— 37	3,644	4,782	8,835	6,782	15,606	— 24	38,911
	March 1891	— 3	— 4	— 394	29	— 761	1,155	5,587	5,052	— 146	5,318	17,640	2	33,475
	September ,, ...	— 144	— 4	— 388	— 24	— 2,657	289	13,369	6,259	2,009	2,000	24,168	108	44,985
	March 1992	— 424	— 97	— 519	— 397	126	214	7,880	3,003	— 1,833	438	11,009	224	19,624
	September ,, ...	2	138	— 592	— 1,705	— 33	984	7,172	1,658	— 913	2,969	8,367	88	18,135
Total ..	March 1889	1,661	13,527	— 25,000	— 6,860	— 6,629	498	— 49,045	22,901	— 56,055	15,470	64,775	— 23,294	— 48,051
	September ,, ...	4,140	4.880	— 21,610	— 11,531	1,232	— 998	— 48,443	17,625	— 45,384	12,167	59,728	— 6,670	— 34,864
	March 1890	— 1,040	2,344	— 25,881	— 21,376	— 4,159	211	— 20,494	32,854	— 41,129	31,901	87,204	— 19,624	20,811
	September ,, ...	— 2,555	— 633	— 27,018	— 19,847	— 5,807	— 578	— 23,603	26,073	— 29,301	59,103	72,180	— 5,862	42,152
	March 1891	— 13,659	— 1,088	— 23,853	— 8,783	— 10,901	2,797	— 17,883	36,810	— 66,101	70,925	154,048	— 16,280	106,032
	September ,, ...	— 16,336	— 1,590	— 21,435	— 16,053	— 16,596	1,470	7,875	48,350	— 56,151	68,786	104,222	— 4,641	97,901
	March 1892	— 5,837	1,165	— 14,061	— 12,934	34,052	1,454	18,316	51,146	— 86,650	59,624	115,729	— 14,641	147,363
	September ,, ...	— 680	5,406	— 13,466	— 17,988	20,980	2,172	5,933	26,068	— 60,448	48,230	60,019	— 4,089	72,137

DIAGRAM SHEWING THE COURSE OF PRICES IN THE COIMBATORE DISTRICT
DURING THE RECENT PERIOD OF DISTRESS
COMPARED WITH THE RATES PREVAILING IN 1876-77
AND WITH AVERAGE NORMAL RATES

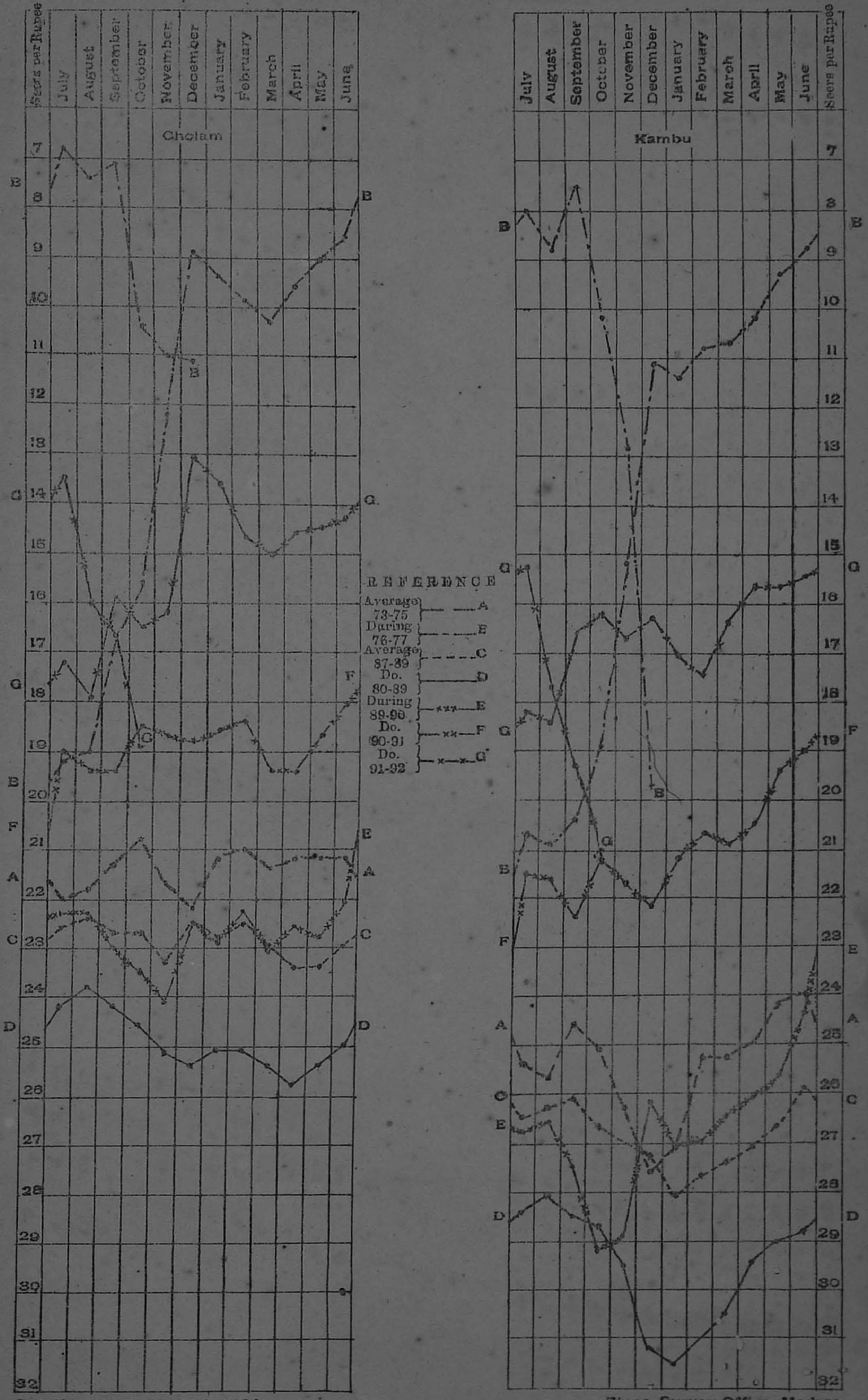

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DIAGRAM SHEWING THE COURSE OF PRICES IN THE CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT AND MADRAS
DURING THE RECENT PERIOD OF DISTRESS
COMPARED WITH THE RATES PREVAILING IN 1876-77,
AND WITH AVERAGE NORMAL RATES

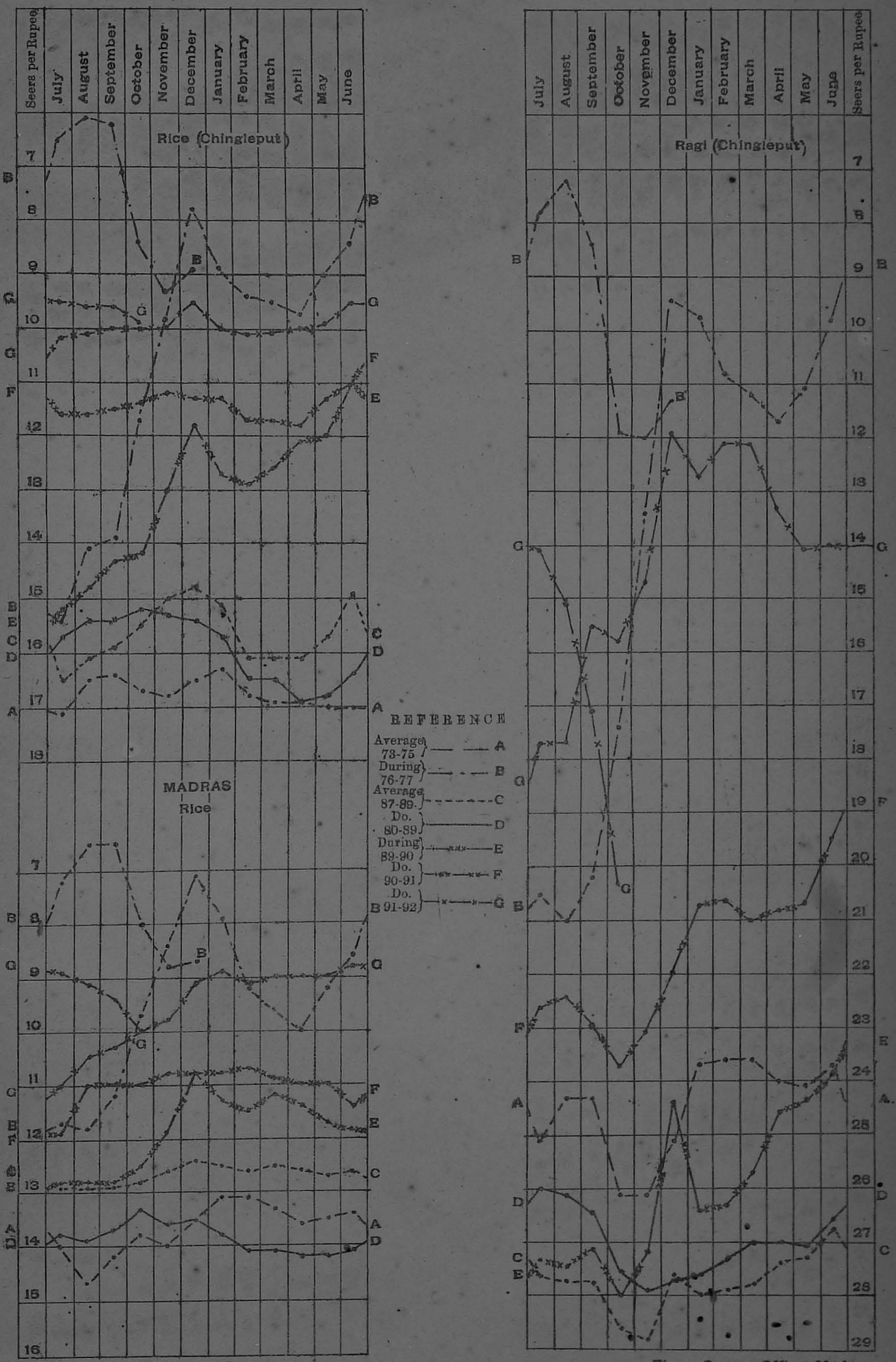

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DIAGRAM SHEWING THE COURSE OF PRICES IN THE CUDDAPAH (SUB-DIVISION) DURING THE RECENT PERIOD OF DISTRESS, COMPARED WITH THE RATES PREVAILING IN 1876-77 AND WITH AVERAGE NORMAL RATES.

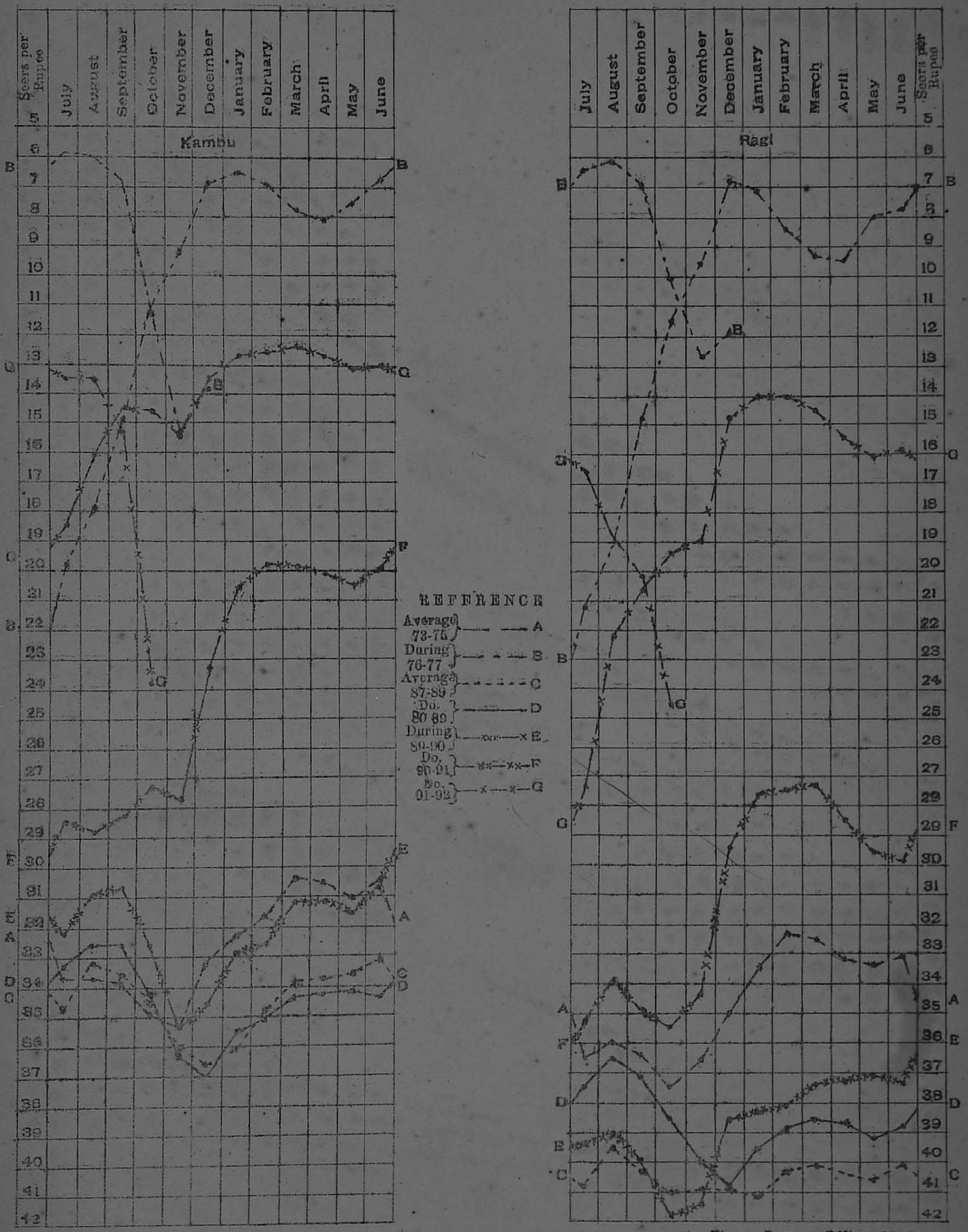

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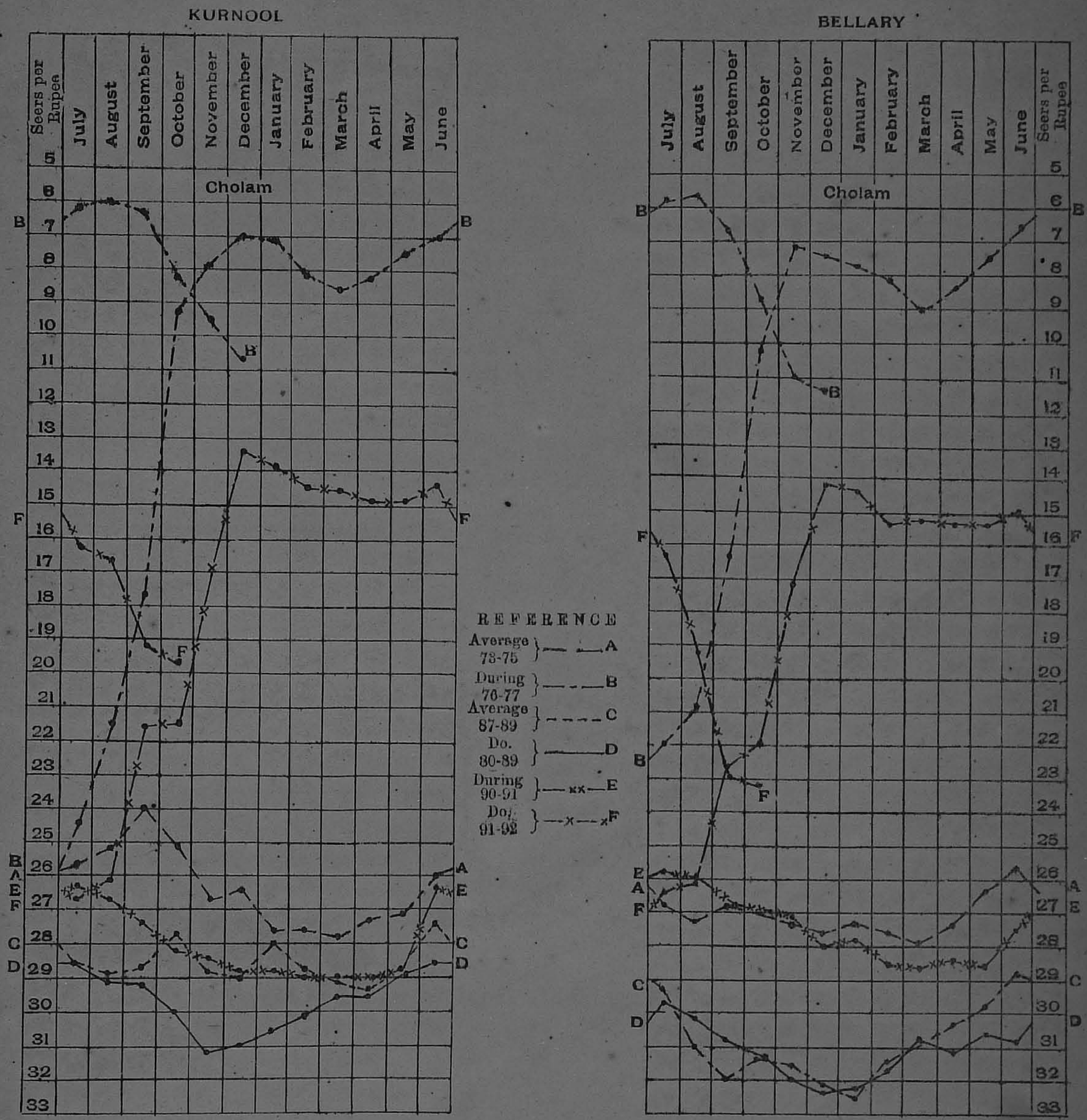
DIAGRAM SHEWING THE COURSE OF PRICES IN THE BELLARY (PROPER) & KURNOOL DISTRICT
DURING THE RECENT PERIOD OF DISTRESS
COMPARED WITH THE RATES PREVAILING IN 1876-77
AND WITH AVERAGE NORMAL RATES



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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 6th September 1893, No. 369 :—

Resolution—dated 6th September 1893, No. 369.

The Board begs to submit herewith the Commissioner's report on the recent famine and the administration of the measures adopted for the relief of distress.

2. A file of the Collectors' reports is also submitted.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) M. ADINARAYANA IYAH,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Commissioner's report and file of Collectors' reports.

Copy to Collectors concerned, with Commissioner's report and file of Collectors' reports.

„ to other Collectors, with Commissioner's report.

ORDER—dated 4th May 1894, No. 302, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

With the above Proceedings the Board of Revenue submits the report of the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, on the agricultural distress which prevailed in several districts of this Presidency during the years 1891 and 1892, and on the administration of the measures adopted for the relief of those affected by it.

2. The causes which led to the scarcity and the stages of distress through which the affected tracts passed during the prevalence thereof are fully described in the early portion of the report. It will be seen therefrom, and from the file of Collectors' reports appended thereto, that the first signs of an impending scarcity were discerned towards the close of the year 1890 when it became apparent that the rains brought by the north-east monsoon during the last three months of the year, which form the chief rainfall months of that monsoon, had been deficient in most districts and markedly so in the nine districts named in the first column of the marginal statement.*

*Districts which suffered most from the failure of the

North-east monsoon of 1890–91.	South-west monsoon of 1891–92.	North-east monsoon of 1891–92.
1	2	3
	Kurnool.	Kurnool
	Bellary.	Bellary.
	Anantapur.	Anantapur.
Cuddapah.	Cuddapah.	Cuddapah.
Nellore.	Nellore.	Nellore.
Chingleput.	Chingleput.	
North Arcot.	North Arcot.	North Arcot.
South Arcot.		
	Salem.	Salem.
Coimbatore.	Coimbatore.	Coimbatore.
Madura.		
Tinnevelly.		
Malabar.		

3. In consequence of this drought, there was a serious failure of the wet crops over more or less extensive areas in those districts, and the yield of the dry crops therein was also poor. In most of those districts, however, some unexpected rains fell during the early months of 1891, which so far improved prospects as to remove all cause for serious anxiety, except in respect of portions of five districts (Cuddapah, Chingleput, North Arcot, Coimbatore and Tinnevelly), in which the distress was so severe as to render it necessary to provide relief works.

4. At first, the opening of a few large works by the Public Works Department in addition to the ordinary public works, coupled with additional outlay on minor irrigation works and the grant of liberal loans under the Agricultural Loans Acts chiefly for the construction of wells, were found sufficient to enable the poorer ryots and the labouring classes to tide over the distress without much difficulty. But matters became worse as the summer months of 1891 went on, and the south-west monsoon turned out a serious failure. That monsoon was not only unusually late throughout the Presidency, but the rainfall under it was extremely scanty, the total amount being less than the lowest fall recorded during the previous 20 years. In four* of the affected districts, however, the rainfall was sufficient to improve their agricultural prospects; but it was seriously deficient in more or less extensive tracts in the other five,† and also in the Deccan districts and Salem. The result was that, while anxiety ceased to be felt in respect of four of the districts affected by the failure of the previous monsoon, four ‡ new districts were added to the list of distressed tracts, and relief measures, which during the first half of the year had been confined to comparatively small tracts had to be extended to gradually increasing areas. In all these affected districts, except in Chingleput, the subsequent north-east monsoon also proved more or less a failure, the rainfall under it being both scanty and unseasonable, especially in the Deccan districts and in North Nellore. This succession of bad seasons intensified the distress in these districts, and, towards the close of the year, when the failure of the north-east monsoon had become established, it was found necessary to open relief works in most taluks therein. The distress in these tracts deepened during the early months of 1892, and, in consequence, the numbers on relief works, which, owing to a slight improvement of the season in some of the affected tracts in the southern districts, had fallen from a monthly average of about 35,000 in October 1891 to about 19,000 in December, began to increase very rapidly from the beginning of January 1892. The agricultural condition of these tracts remained unchanged till about the close of April, when some good showers enabled cultivation to be commenced in portions thereof; and this improvement, continuing during the next two months, reduced the area of distress (which had increased from 3,450 square miles in June 1891 to 21,300 square miles in December, and to 22,700 square miles in March 1892) to 17,600 square miles towards the end of June, when there was a heavy and unprecedented rainfall in most parts of the affected districts which was followed by further heavy falls in subsequent months until the close of the south-west monsoon. These exceptionally plentiful rains led to a rapid diminution in the numbers seeking relief, which fell from an average of about 88,000 in June to 55,000 in July and 21,000 in August, by the end of which month it was found possible to close relief works everywhere, except in two taluks in Kurnool and a single taluk in each of the districts of Bellary and Cuddapah, where also works were finally closed about the middle of September.

* South Arcot, Madura, Tinnevelly and Malabar.

† Cuddapah, Nellore, Chingleput, North Arcot and Coimbatore.

‡ Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur and Salem.

5. The statement given above in the margin of paragraph 2 shows the districts which suffered most from drought during each of the three monsoons, the failure of which caused the distress under review; and the map appended to this review (Appendix A) shows the areas therein in which the distress was so severe as to necessitate the adoption of special measures of relief. It will be seen from the map that the districts seriously affected by the recent scarcity were the same that suffered most severely during the great famine of 1876–78. But neither in the extent of the area affected nor in the acuteness of the distress experienced by the people, did the recent scarcity approach the great famine. It is therefore unnecessary to review in detail the development of the distress in the various affected areas, or the special measures of relief adopted therein. It will suffice here to make a few general remarks on the most important points and to note the chief lessons which the experience gained has taught in regard to the administrative measures to be adopted in times of severe scarcity or famine. But before doing so His Excellency the Governor in Council desires to place on record

his sense of the efficient manner in which operations were directed by the Honorable Mr. Clogstoun, the Member of the Board of Revenue in charge of the administration of relief measures, and carried out by the District officers acting under his instructions. The measures adopted were suitable and timely and it was mainly owing to this fact that distress was not more widespread. The Government of India on more than one occasion expressed its satisfaction with the manner in which the crisis was being dealt with, and His Excellency the Governor, who visited the affected tracts from time to time, noted with satisfaction the good work which was being done by the officers of all branches of the Administration engaged in relief operations. To all who were so employed the thanks of Government are due, but more especially to those named in paragraphs 114—117 of the Commissioner's report.

6. The most important points to be noticed are as follows:—

(1) *Numbers relieved.*—The numbers employed on relief works and those to whom gratuitous relief was given in each month during the course of distress are tabulated, in detail of taluks, in the statements forming Appendix III to the Commissioner's report. It will be seen from these statements that, taking all the affected districts together, the highest numbers on works were reached in June 1892, when, as already stated, the monthly average amounted to 88,000, while the numbers gratuitously relieved reached their maximum in the month of September 1891, when the average number amounted to about 7,000. The rise and fall of these numbers will be apparent at a glance from the diagrams given in Appendix B.

(2) *Measures of relief.*—The various measures of relief and the cost thereof are detailed in paragraphs 44—69 and 94—98 of the report. In addition to remissions of revenue and suspension of collections, large advances were made to land-owners for the improvement of their lands, chiefly for the construction or repair of irrigation wells.

The Government being convinced that one of the most effective means of averting famine in this Presidency was to promote the extension of well-irrigation and that State funds could not be more usefully employed than in this direction, all District officers were directed to do their utmost to bring home to the people the great advantages offered by the Special Well Rules and, as stated by the Commissioner in paragraph 63 of the report, the importance of encouraging the construction and repair of irrigation wells was also specially impressed on all the officers employed in the distressed tracts by His Excellency the Governor during his tours in them. It is therefore matter for gratification that a large measure of success attended the efforts of these officers, loans to the amount of Rs. 36 lakhs having been disbursed during the two years 1890–91 and 1891–92 in the affected districts alone and to the amount of about Rs. 39½ lakhs in the Presidency as a whole, against an annual average of about Rs. 2 lakhs in the three previous years (paragraph 94) and that the Commissioner has reason to be satisfied that "in the great majority of instances the advances have been honestly utilized to the great advantage of the borrower and of the State" (paragraph 65). As regards the works provided for relief purposes, the Commissioner states that "preference was everywhere given to irrigation works wherever such could be found suitable," but that "the absence of such works in the distressed tracts in Coimbatore, Salem, Nellore and Bellary and their insufficiency in Kurnool and elsewhere rendered the taking up of road repairs compulsory" (paragraph 95). The expenditure on road works constituted 53 per cent. of the total expenditure on works (Rs. 16½ lakhs) and that on irrigation works 36 per cent. Including land revenue remitted, the total cost of the relief measures amounted to a little over Rs. 59 lakhs. In addition to this amount, munificent donations received from His Highness the Maharajah Holkar, the Madras Mahajana Sabha, Rajah Sir S. Ramaswami Mudaliar, and other philanthropic individuals were utilised for the relief of distress and the thanks of the Government have already been conveyed to them.

(3) *Course of prices.*—In regard to the course of the prices of food-grains during the period of distress, various comparative statements are given in the body of the report and in Appendix II; and certain diagrams are also appended to the report showing, for the most affected districts, the range of prices of their staple food-grains in comparison with the rates which prevailed during 1876–77 and with the average

normal rates. It will be seen from these statements and diagrams that the prices of all food-grains which had risen above the normal during faslis 1298 and 1299 owing to the unfavorable season in several districts of the Presidency during those years, showed a further and marked rise during fasli 1300 (1890–91) and a sudden and a very much higher rise during fasli 1301 (1891–92). But as observed by the Commissioner in paragraph 28 of his report, "though prices in the affected tracts were everywhere exceptionally high" during the period of distress, "they nowhere touched the prices in the great famine." In the statement subjoined to paragraph 27 of the report, the Presidency prices of the principal food-grains in each of the 19 years ending with fasli 1301 are tabulated. A diagram is appended to this review (Appendix C) showing the course of the average prices of these grains in the nine affected districts during the last 20 years ending with fasli 1302. It will be seen from this diagram that, notwithstanding the great improvement in the season of fasli 1302 in most of these districts, the prices of food-grains fell only very slightly during that fasli; and reports received from the Board regarding other districts also show that this slow decline of prices is everywhere observable, the prices throughout the Presidency being still considerably above the average rates which prevailed before fasli 1299. It is an important question whether these latter rates will be reached again or whether, owing to the fall in the purchasing power of the rupee or any other cause, the normal rates will settle permanently at a higher level. The Board has been asked to report on the subject after watching the course of prices for some time longer (G.O., dated 18th December 1893, No. 1077).

(4) *Mortality.*—With respect to the effects of the distress on human mortality there are no sufficient data for drawing any accurate conclusions; no census of the affected tracts was taken and, as observed by the Commissioner in paragraph 70 of his report, no great reliance can be placed on the birth and death statistics maintained by village officers. The statement subjoined to paragraph 70 of the report shows that in most of the affected tracts there was a large increase in the number of recorded deaths both in 1891 and 1892 as compared with the reported deaths during the previous five years. But as much of this increased mortality was due to cholera which prevailed in most districts of the Presidency during those two years, and in a more severe form in some places outside the affected area than within it, it is impossible to estimate, with any degree of accuracy, how much of the excess mortality which occurred in the affected districts was due to the effects of the scarcity. The report shows that the general health of the labourers on works and of the inmates of kitchens was everywhere good on the whole, and the Commissioner has reason to think that there was no mortality due to absolute want in any of the affected tracts.

In paragraphs 81—91 of the report, the Commissioner gives an account of the measures taken for the preservation of cattle. The measures, though well devised, do not appear to have been very effectual; but, as the Commissioner observes in paragraph 91, where there is a dearth of fodder owing to the failure of rain, it is impossible to prevent the occurrence of a considerable cattle mortality "so long as innumerable cattle are allowed to live in ordinary years solely on what can be picked up on the village grazing-grounds, the owners being unable to afford to keep them alive by purchased fodder." The census figures tabulated in paragraph 91 of the report show that the bulk of the losses was among the breeding animals and young stock, not among the tilling cattle. It is satisfactory to learn that, notwithstanding the large loss of cattle, there was no decrease in the area brought under cultivation during fasli 1302 (1892–93) except in Coimbatore where there was a decrease of about 100,000 acres in dry cultivation owing to a specially bad season experienced during the year in the southern taluks of the district. In all the other affected districts there was an increase in cultivation, amounting on the whole to about 1,000,000 acres or 9·25 per cent. in excess of the average, against a decrease of about 9·7 per cent. during the previous fasli (1301).

(5) *Activity of the grain trade.*—On this subject an interesting note prepared by Mr. Benson, Deputy Director of Agriculture, is appended to the report. The statistics compiled therewith show that whereas in ordinary years the net trade of this Presidency with other parts of India is on the side of exports which amounted to about

14,000 tons in 1889–90, it was changed into a net import of 148,000 tons in 1890–91 and 245,000 tons in 1891–92. The Commissioner thinks that the very high prices which ruled in the distressed areas in the latter part of 1891 and for the first six months of 1892 must have been due to a serious depletion of the stocks of grain in the Presidency towards the end of 1891 (paragraph 80). The very high prices which ruled in the Deccan districts during 1892 is stated to be due to a large extent to the fact that, tempted by the comparatively high prices which prevailed in the affected tracts in 1891, those districts exported a large quantity of their surplus grain unconscious of the severe distress which was so soon to fall upon themselves (paragraph 26).

7. It remains to consider what lessons can be learnt from the experience of the recent scarcity. The Commissioner's inferences are contained in paragraphs 33—61, 97 and 99—113 of his report. They may be summed up as follows:—

I. That an extensive failure of the crops of even a single year is sufficient in this Presidency to deprive the majority of land-holders (who are mostly petty proprietors) and the labouring classes (who are mostly field-labourers) of their ordinary means of livelihood and to make them dependent on extraneous aid, especially State aid, for their maintenance until the return of a season favorable to agricultural operations (paragraph 34).

II. That of the two systems of providing relief work, usually designated piece-work and task-work, the latter which proceeds on the principle of tasking labourers according to their capacity and paying them wages limited to what is sufficient for their subsistence should be preferred for purposes of famine relief. The disadvantages of this system are that it involves the employment of a larger supervising staff than the first and more frequent payments and therefore more frequent measurement and registration of the work actually turned out; but its great advantage which in the Commissioner's opinion more than counterbalances the disadvantages is that it ensures employment and a sufficiency to all who are willing to work at a cost to the State which is as closely as possible proportioned to the extent of distress (paragraph 45).

III. That in providing relief works it is better to err on the side of starting them too soon than too late. A too early commencement of State aid is doubtless attended with the disadvantage that the people may place undue reliance on such aid and neglect other means of helping themselves; but recent experience has confirmed the Commissioner in the opinion that, provided the task-work principle is adhered to, there is not the slightest danger of State relief works proving too attractive or of any but the really needy resorting thereto. The Commissioner adduces numerous instances to show that a properly tasked relief work will not attract those who can find work elsewhere (paragraph 41). He points out that any delay in starting relief works after the need therefor has been recognized will not only inflict real suffering on large numbers but will be attended with the following disadvantages, namely,—

(*a*) that when works are started the influx of labourers is likely to be so great as to render a proper organization of relief a matter of great difficulty (paragraph 35);

(*b*) that the normal value of the work turned out will fall in the proportion in which the labourers drafted to the relief works have already been reduced in their physical condition by any considerable suffering; and

(*c*) that the cost of gratuitous relief will also proportionately increase.

The Commissioner considers that much of the ineffectual expenditure and loss of life which occurred in the great famine is attributable to the neglect to open works at a sufficiently early date (paragraph 37).

IV. That works started for the relief of distress should provide employment from the very commencement not merely to able-bodied labourers, but to all who are willing to work, whether they are able to turn out a fair day's work or not. The Commissioner refers in this connection to the experience of the recent distress in Ganjám in which he says the warning of the great famine was so far followed that works were opened at a sufficiently early date, but a very fatal error was made in restricting the grant of employment to the able-bodied and in consequence it became necessary subsequently to grant gratuitous relief on a large scale (paragraph 39).

V. That in the Commissioner's opinion it is of great importance that kitchens should be opened contemporaneously with large works to meet a possible necessity, since sickness may at any time drive a family to seek gratuitous relief. He observes that the experience of the recent distress shows that this form of relief is not likely to be abused (paragraph 97). It is a remarkable feature of the recent distress that the numbers gratuitously relieved bore a very small proportion to the numbers on works—*vide* the comparative statement given in paragraph 55 of the report. The Commissioner thinks that although this was doubtless due in a measure to the comparative lightness of the pressure of distress, to a somewhat higher wage paid to labourers as compared with the great famine and to the disinclination of the people to accept gratuitous relief in the only form in which it was granted, namely, in the form of cooked food in public kitchens, it was also largely due to the fact that labourers generally preferred work to idleness (paragraphs 31 and 55).

The first of the conclusions detailed above seems to Government to over-estimate somewhat the effects of a single year's failure of crops. Such failure, even when extensive, cannot as a rule deprive the "majority" of land-holders of their ordinary means of livelihood, although a considerable number may be reduced to this condition. It seems to Government that a failure of crops for a longer period than one year is required to produce the effects mentioned by the Commissioner, while a failure for two consecutive years would undoubtedly entail consequences of a disastrous character. Subject to this remark, the Government concurs generally with the Commissioner's inferences.

8. There is one point to which due prominence has not been given in the Commissioner's report, namely, the important part played by railways in steadying the price of grain. The new railways, the Bellary-Kistna, and the Villupuram-Guntakal lines which run through great stretches of the affected tracts proved of incalculable benefit to the people during the recent scarcity—not so much perhaps for the actual amount of grain which they brought to the doors of the people in any considerable quantities, but from the fact that whenever a combination was formed among the grain merchants (which indeed was constantly occurring), some outsider ordered up a truck of grain to the nearest station, and that had the effect of breaking up the ring at once and defeating its object. In this way, prices were prevented from rising to any extravagant height which would certainly have occurred had it not been for the facilities afforded by the railways. The enormous benefit which railways constructed as famine protective works are thus capable of conferring in times of scarcity impressed itself forcibly on His Excellency the Governor's attention when touring through the affected districts in 1891 and 1892.

9. The Commissioner's remarks in paragraphs 47—54 on the suitability of different kinds of work for purposes of famine relief are worthy of note. He points out that minor irrigation works, where they are numerous, can be usefully taken up in the early stages of a famine, as, in addition to the obvious utility of putting these works in order, they will often furnish employment near the homes of the people and will, if wages are properly fixed, serve as a criterion of the need for State relief and afford time for the opening, if necessary, of large central works. The disadvantage is that being generally scattered, it will be difficult, without a very large establishment, to properly supervise them or to ensure that only those who are in need of employment are taken on to the works and that none of the really needy are excluded. This disadvantage does not exist in the case of large works of irrigation, such as the repair or construction of tanks or channels, as such works will generally admit of the employment of large numbers, and of a suitable staff to admit of the works being carried out on the task-work system. Such works will also give ample employment for unskilled labour. They are accordingly well suited to serve as famine relief works. There is, however, one disadvantage, namely, that when they are tank-works it would be impossible to employ large numbers without considerable crowding and consequent risk of the outbreak of epidemics—a risk which was exemplified in many cases in the great famine and also in the recent scarcity in Kurnool. On account of this risk the Commissioner is inclined to regard road-work as best suited for employing famine labour. The nature of the work is easily learnt and large numbers can be employed without overcrowding, but

with sufficient concentration to admit of its easy inspection and supervision by the superior officers, which inspection and supervision the Commissioner considers to be absolutely necessary in the case of famine labour. He also points out that in most of the tracts liable to famine, road-work is almost the only work on which labour can be employed.

In this connection the Commissioner refers to an excellent manual of rules for the management of labourers on relief works drawn up by Mr. G. Stokes, Collector of Salem, and amplified and enlarged from the results of later experience by Mr. R. Sewell, Collector of Bellary. As these rules are reported to have worked satisfactorily during the recent scarcity, the Commissioner intends to have them revised and brought up to date and printed as an appendix to the Famine Code.

10. In paragraphs 99—113 of the report, the Commissioner deals with the question of the principal modifications of the Famine Code which the experience of the recent scarcity and of the distress in Ganjám in 1889 has either suggested as desirable or has shown to be necessary. The modifications relate to the following subjects :—

(1) The agency to be employed for the supervision of relief works.
(2) The classification of labourers.
(3) The wages to be granted to labourers.
(4) Rules for the grant of gratuitous relief.
(5) Rules for the general conduct of relief works.

The Commissioner's recommendations on these subjects are entitled to great weight and will be considered in connection with the revised Famine Code, which has been called for in G.O., dated 12th September 1893, No. 3360, and which the Government expects will be submitted by him shortly. It will be seen from the resolution of the Government of India, printed in that Government Order, that on most of the points to which the Commissioner's recommendations relate, the Government of India has, on a review of reports recently received from several Local Governments, laid down certain definite instructions in view mainly to secure uniformity of practice, and that in the main the Commissioner's suggestions agree with those instructions.

11. One or two of the Commissioner's remarks on the general conduct of famine administration may be noted here.

He is strongly of opinion that, in regard to the conduct of relief works, it is much better to lay down binding rules than merely to give "hints" as is done in the Madras Famine Code—*vide* Appendix A to the Code. His experience of the past period of distress and of the great famine in Kurnool has convinced him that it is possible to form a code of rules for the management of most of the operations of relief, which can be followed absolutely under nearly all circumstances and that such a code, which he considers the Government can now prescribe, will be of enormous convenience to all officers entrusted with the opening of relief works. He would of course reserve to the Commissioner power to modify any rule of mere procedure found inapplicable to peculiar circumstances.

He is also of opinion that wherever labour can be usefully employed on the storing of metal and gravel along existing roads, the supervision of the works can be safely entrusted to Revenue officers, his experience having shown that these officers require very little instruction to enable them to carry out the rules in respect of the various operations connected with the conduct of such works. He says that there were but few large works carried out for the relief of distress which were not visited by him on several occasions, and that "in the great majority of cases he was satisfied with the arrangements for allotting, measuring and recording the work of the different gangs and for enforcing a suitable task, and that this was the case not less in works carried out under the supervision of the Revenue authorities than in those carried out under Professional Agency." This testimony of the Commissioner to the general capability of Revenue officers to supervise ordinary road-works is very satisfactory, seeing that such works will generally constitute the bulk of the relief works, there being large tracts of country specially liable to famine in which, as observed by the Commissioner, road-work is almost the only work on which famine labour can be employed, and that,

notwithstanding the greater facilities which now exist than formerly, owing to the development of the Local Boards system, for the employment of Professional Agency, the Revenue officers will still have to be employed very largely in the supervision of relief works.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).

Copy to the Public Works Department.
" " Local and Municipal Department.
" " Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

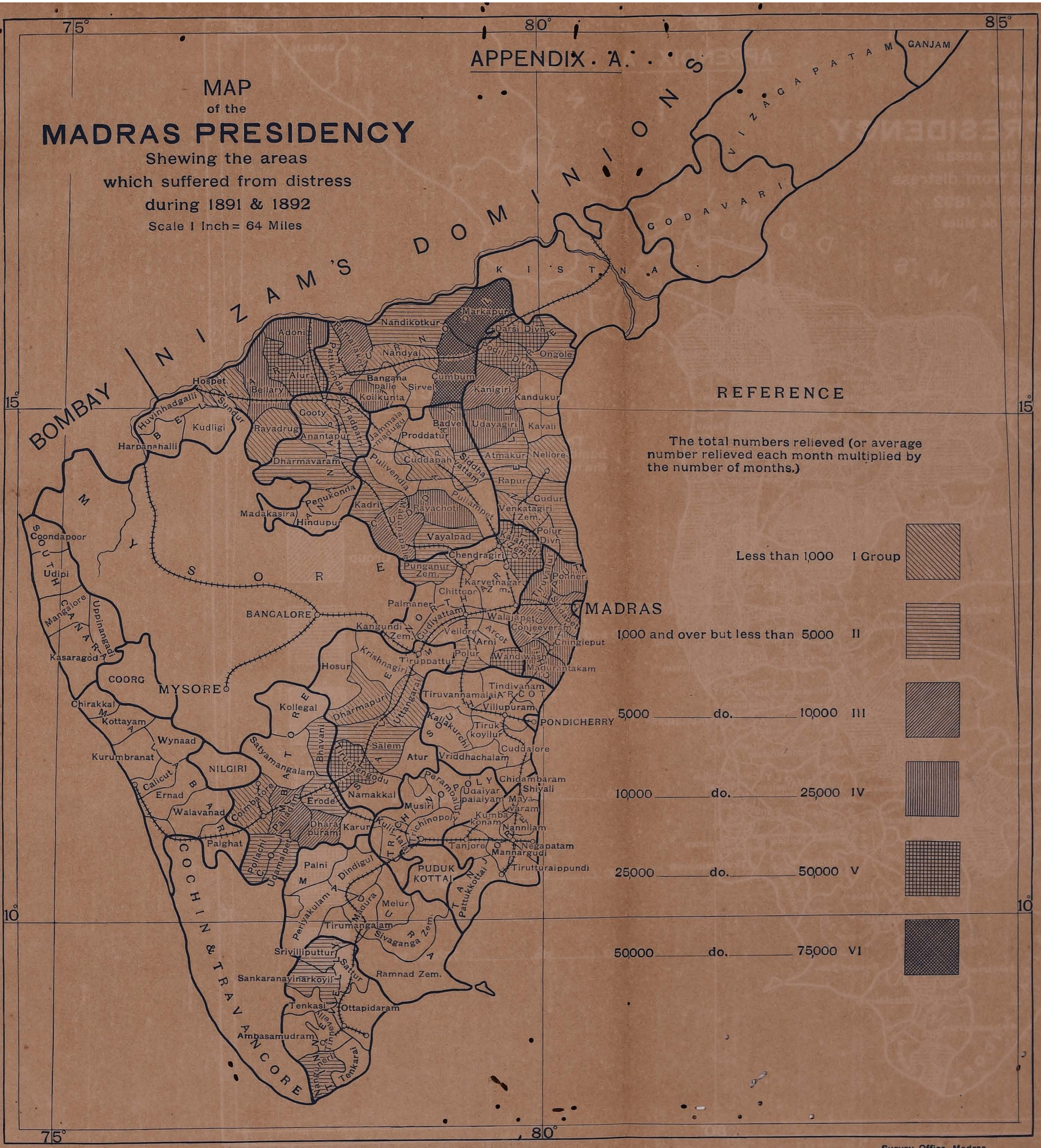
Endorsement No. 302A.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. C. M. Brisson.

130 Copies.



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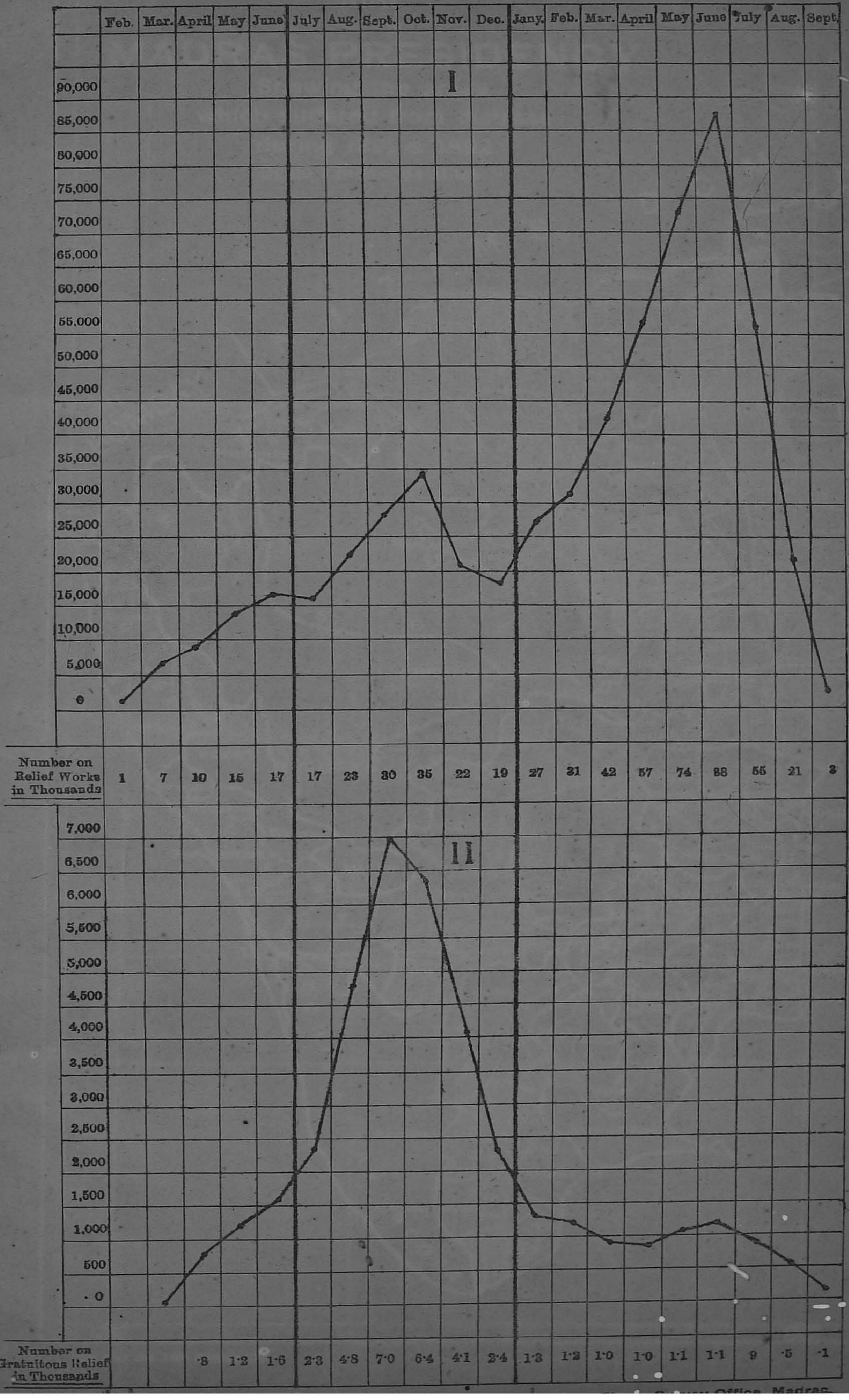
APPENDIX B

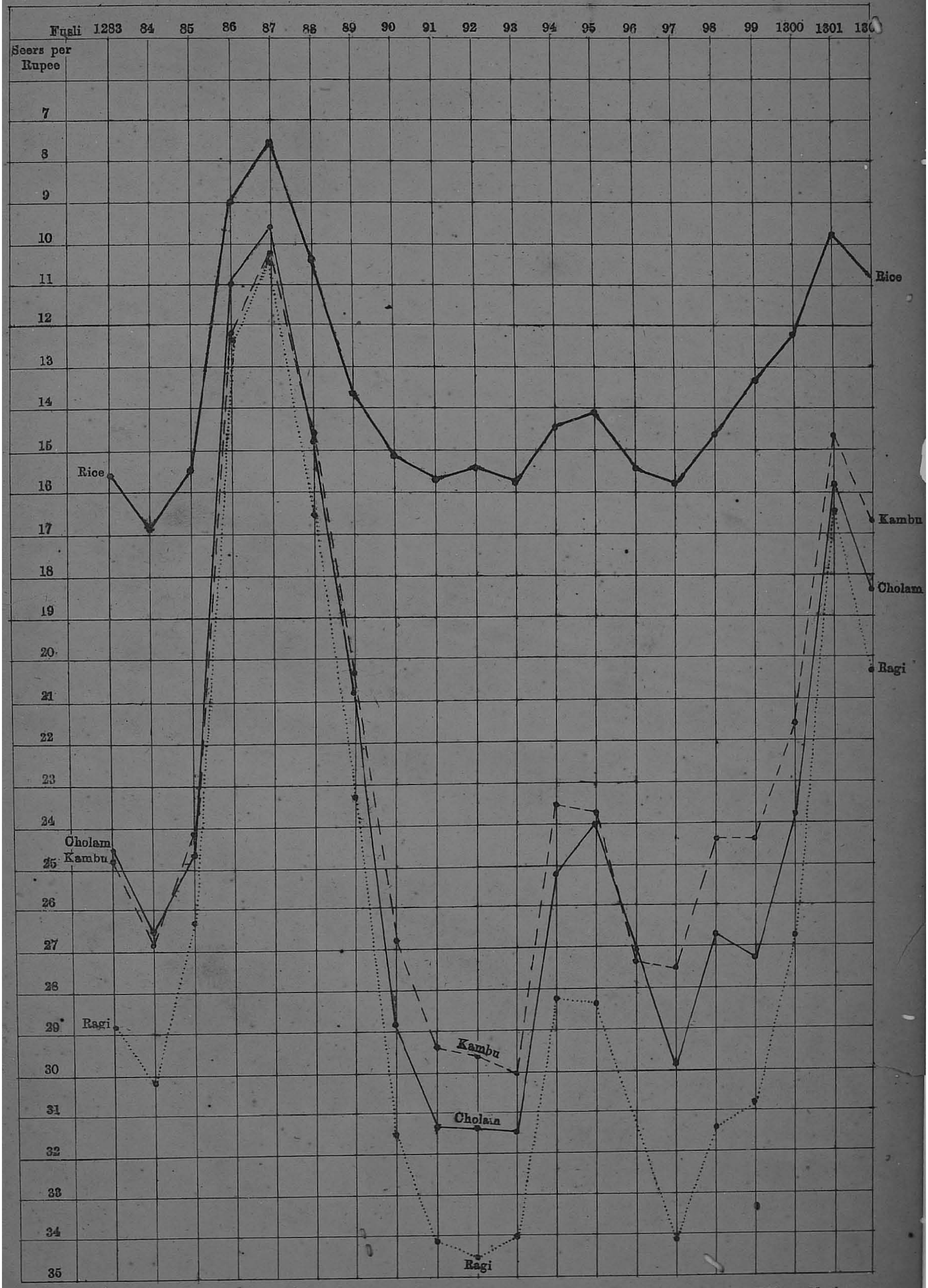
Diagram showing month by month the fluctuations in the total number of persons on Relief: I on works — II on Gratuitous relief.



... Office, Madras.

APPENDIX C

Diagram showing the fluctuations in the average annual prices of the principal food-grains in the nine affected districts during the 20 fuslis ending fusli 1302



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